

'Councils succeed where league fails'

RIYADH (R) — Egypt's Foreign Minister Esmat Abdu Maguid said cooperation councils linking Arab countries could succeed where the Arab League failed. "Arab Cooperation (Councils) can accomplish what the Arab League failed to accomplish because of their geographic links and mutual interests," he told the Saudi Arabia Okaz newspaper in an interview published Wednesday. He said the Gulf Cooperation Council, Arab Cooperation Council and the Arab Maghreb Union were "not aimed against anyone, nor are they designed for more cooperation and coordination." Abdu Maguid called for unified Arab efforts to help end Lebanon's violence and praised Arab League peace efforts there.



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King affirms Jordan's ideals

AMMAN (J.T.) — His Majesty King Hussein, the Supreme Commander of the Jordanian Armed Forces, said Wednesday that Jordan would continue to be an impregnable Arab bastion supporting reconciliation, accord, and Arab cooperation.

Addressing members of Al Hussein Ibn Ali Brigade during a visit he paid to the unit Wednesday, King Hussein expressed pleasure for meeting with the brigade members and paid tribute to the Armed Forces for their role in confronting the challenges and dangers threatening the Arab Nation, its aspirations, and the Arab order.



The King also underlined the role of the Armed Forces in protecting the homeland and defending the nation's honour and dignity. At the outset of the visit, the King listened to a briefing from the brigade commander on the unit's duties, activities, and various training exercises. The King also paid a field visit and was briefed on the unit's various training activities.

The King was accompanied by Chief of Staff General Fath Abu Taleb.

Gazans urged to boycott Israeli jobs for two weeks

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Palestinian activists in the occupied Gaza Strip called Wednesday for a two-week boycott of jobs in Israel to protest computerised identity cards for day labourers.

Slogans spray-painted on walls in the coastal strip, signed by the uprising leaders, urged Gazans to stay away from their jobs starting Friday to defy Israel's efforts to control the workers by requiring the new identity cards.

On Tuesday, leaders of the uprising said in a leaflet that workers in the occupied West Bank should strike for a week starting Friday in solidarity with the Gazans.

An estimated 50,000 Gazans and 60,000 West Bank Palestinians work in Israel.

Meanwhile, Palestinians in the occupied territories observed a general strike for a second consecutive day.

Shops, offices and many schools remained closed for the strike, called to commemorate a prison protest last year in which two Palestinians were killed.

Five Palestinians were shot and wounded in stone-throwing clashes with Israeli troops, reports said. Two were wounded in the Khan Yunis refugee camp, including a 45-year-old woman in critical condition with a bullet in the neck, they said.

The work boycott, if successful, would be the longest since the Palestinian uprising began in the occupied territories 20 months ago.

Rumours spread through the Gaza Strip that the truck had intentionally run over the workers, and violent protests broke out.

On Dec. 9, thousands of Jabalya camp residents took to the streets to burn tyres and block streets. They threw stones and molotov cocktails at Israeli troops in what has become the hallmark of the uprising.

Masked youths also were seen in some Bethlehem neighbourhoods preventing people from going to their jobs in Israel.

An Israeli soldier stands guard over a group of Palestinians rounded up after a petrol bomb attack in Ramallah

In the West Bank cities of Nablus and Bethlehem, masked youths entered schools and forced students to go home.

"Brother students, observing the strike is a national duty," said slogans scrawled on the walls of Bethlehem.

Masked youths also were seen in some Bethlehem neighbourhoods preventing people from going to their jobs in Israel.

An Israeli soldier stands guard over a group of Palestinians rounded up after a petrol bomb attack in Ramallah

Polish party fights for survival

WARSAW (Agencies) — Poland's ruling Communist Party fought to retain its grip on power Wednesday as Solidarity moved closer to forming a coalition government with two small minor parties.

Communist Party leader Mieczyslaw Rakowski told a meeting of his party's parliamentary deputies that Poland was locked in a struggle which would determine the party's position in the political system.

"A real struggle for power has started. We were not prepared for this... the situation is changing every hour," a party central committee secretary, Marek Krol, quoted Rakowski as telling the meeting.

Deputies of the United Peasant's Party (UPP) and the Democratic Party (DP), two Communist-allied parties that are seeking more independence, voted to back Solidarity leader

Lech Walesa's proposal for a coalition dominated by non-Communists.

Walesa said Tuesday Solidarity would accept Communist control of the defence and interior ministries, which handle sensitive areas of Poland's alliance with Soviet Union, so long as the opposition received key economy portfolios.

Solidarity spokesman Jozef Oryszkiewicz said Wednesday the Communists also might receive other ministries as well.

The Soviet Union lauded as "sensible" Walesa's promise not to upset the Warsaw Pact military alliance. A Communist official in Warsaw said reforms this year that allowed a legitimate opposition in the Polish government had not yet evolved to the point that other parties were capable of exercising power in Poland.

President Wojciech Jaruzelski Tuesday proposed a meeting of the country's main political lead-

ers, but there was no word Wednesday on when such a meeting might take place.

The UPP and DP won enough seats in June's parliamentary elections to give the Solidarity-led opposition a majority coalition in the national assembly.

In the 460-member Sejm, the Communists won 173 seats, while Solidarity has 161, the Peasants 76 and the Democrats 27. The rest are held by smaller parties.

Solidarity holds 99 of the 100 seats in the senate, which has less impact on national laws. The Sejm and the senate comprise the national assembly.

Soviet Foreign Ministry spokesman Yury Gremitski said Wednesday that Walesa's statement was "very sensible... in regard to the following, that Poland is a member of the Warsaw Pact and Solidarity should make the necessary conclusions as a result of that."

Work begins on identifying Leland party

ADDIS ABABA (AP) — Military forensic experts Wednesday began identifying the remains of 16 members of a U.S. congressional delegation torn apart when their light plane slammed into a cliff in southwestern Ethiopia last week.

The bodies of all 16, including Congressman Mickey Leland, arrived in Ethiopia's capital Tuesday evening after being plucked from the wreckage of their Twin Otter on the steep slopes of a mountain called Tam.

Additional medical personnel were due in Addis Ababa Wednesday to help the forensic experts already on hand identify the bodies before the nine Americans among them are returned to the United States for burial. Seven Ethiopians also died in the Aug. 7 crash.

Their bodies were hoisted from the crash site Tuesday afternoon by helicopters hovering precariously close to the 90-degree slope of the cliff into which their chartered twin-engine plane smashed en route to a nearby refugee camp.

"Ethiopian and U.S. authorities declare that all bodies have been recovered," Marine Colonel David Titus said later in a statement read to reports.

Titus said remains of the victims first had been flown by helicopter to the nearby town of Gambela in body bags, then transferred to an Ethiopian air force C-130 cargo plane for the return to Addis Ababa.

Titus said the task of identifying the dead likely would take between five and seven days. The work was being done at a clinic at Addis Ababa's international airport.

Members of an investigating team from the United States and Canada flew to the crash site Wednesday morning to begin picking through the wreckage in an attempt to determine the cause of the crash.

NICOSIA (Agencies) — Pakistan Foreign Minister Sabahzada Yaqub Khan arrived in Tehran Wednesday for what Iranian sources in the Gulf say will be an effort to mediate over the fate of Western hostages in Lebanon.

After talks with Iran's new president, Ali Akbar Hashemi Rafsanjani, he will leave Friday for Syria, another country with leverage over Lebanese militant groups.

Iran has denied reports that Yaqub Khan's visit is linked to the crisis triggered by Israel's abduction of a pro-Iranian Shi'ite cleric from South Lebanon last month and the reported hanging of U.S. hostage William Higgins in revenge.

The official Iranian news agency IRNA, reporting his arrival, said he would discuss regional and international issues.

"Latest developments in Afghanistan will also be discussed with the Iranian officials," IRNA quoted Yaqub Khan as saying.

Iranian political sources in the Gulf say Pakistan, which has good relations with both Tehran and Washington, offered to mediate over the hostages.

The United States believes Iran has enough control over extremists in Lebanon to free the hostages if it wishes but finds the signals from Tehran confusing.

Pakistan tries its hand to mediate crisis over hostages

Sudan junta member to meet rebels

KHARTOUM (R) — One of Sudan's new military leaders is to leave for Addis Ababa next week for preliminary talks with the rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), the official Sudan News Agency (SUNA) said Wednesday. Colonel Mohammad Al Amru Khalifa, a member of the revolutionary council which seized power in a coup on June 30, told SUNA comments by SPLA leader John Garang Tuesday would not affect the talks. Garang said in a radio broadcast an end to the five-year civil war was impossible until the junta stepped down in favour of a democratic government. (see page 2). Garang said any peace offer from military leader Omar Hassan Al Bashir must include free elections and the release of all political prisoners not charged with corruption.

Iran's pro-government daily

Ettelaat said Wednesday the U.S. "acts like a rife-raff and a hoodlum... like a drunken bully" in impounding Iranian assets and supporting Israel.

But the English-language Kayhan International, said President Bush had shown "substantial restraint" in the hostage crisis.

Bush has said that he wants good relations with Iran to bring the black majority into the political structure, but activists say his proposal is too vague.

The specific issue that triggered Botha's split with his cabinet was the planned trip by de Klerk Aug. 28 to confer with

Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda, a critic of apartheid (see page 8).

Tom Langley, foreign affairs spokesman for the far-right Conservative Party, described Kaunda Wednesday as "an outspoken enemy of South Africa" and urged de Klerk to call off the meeting.

If the meeting proceeds,

Langley said, de Klerk should "give a public assurance that no internal affairs will be discussed."

Langley said Kaunda, in effect, would be representing the African National Congress (ANC) movement, which wages a bombing and sabotage campaign aimed at toppling the National Party government.

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said the United States did not believe the International Court of Justice at the Hague had jurisdiction in this instance but had agreed to participate "to show our willingness to support the work of the court in appropriate cases."

In last May asked the court to rule that the United States had violated international air traffic conventions when the cruiser Vincennes shot down Iran air Flight 655 over the Gulf on July 3, 1988, killing all 290 people on board.

The Vincennes at the time was part of a U.S. convoy protecting neutral shipping in the strategic waterway.

The United States has maintained that the cruiser did not violate international law and that it fired in self-defence after repeated warnings to an unidentified, hostile plane.

Mark on your calendar
JORDAN RIVER QUILTS EXHIBITION

Friday-Sunday Aug 25-27
At villa opposite University Hospital, Amman
Save the Children

Jordan, North Yemen discuss cooperation

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan and North Yemen Wednesday held preliminary talks on the prospect of cooperation in municipal affairs and announced that further meetings will be held in this respect.

The talks were conducted by Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan Al Jaber and North Yemen's Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing Mousa Hamadani who arrived here Tuesday on a two-day visit to Jordan.

Jaber said that the meeting was in line with the objectives and aspirations of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) and to serve the peoples of North Yemen and Jordan.

Agreement was reached by the two sides to hold further meetings among officials from the two

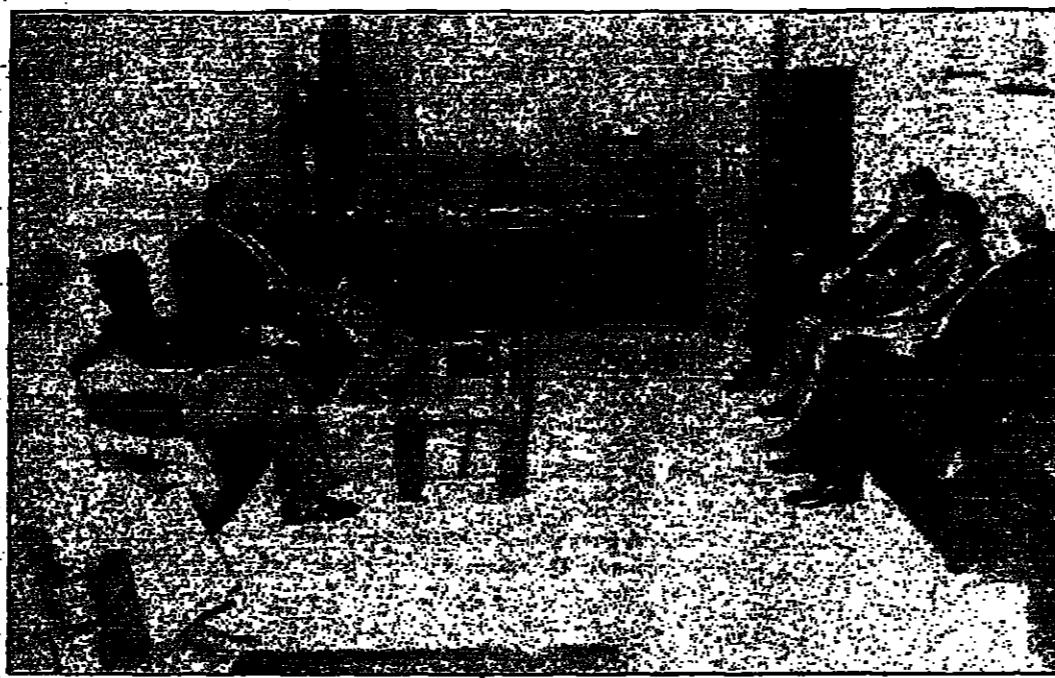
countries to try to expand scopes of cooperation in the exchange of expertise in municipal affairs and in rural and urban development, according to a statement that followed the first round of talks.

During their meeting, the statement noted, the two ministers defined the framework of a joint programme for cooperation in these fields.

Later Wednesday, the North Yemeni minister left for home at the end of his visit to Jordan.

Apart from his talks with Jordanian officials, the North Yemeni minister made field trips to Jordanian projects and was briefed on the Urban Development Department's activities.

He was seen off by Minister of Public Works and Housing Shafiq Zawaidi and the North Yemeni ambassador to Jordan.



Minister of Municipal and Rural Affairs and the Environment Yousef Hamdan and North Yemeni Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing

Mousa Hamadani Wednesday discuss cooperation in municipal affairs in Amman (Petra photo)

Innab, Japanese businessmen discuss investment in Jordan

AMMAN (Petra) — A team of Japanese businessmen met in Amman on Wednesday with Minister of Industry and Trade Ziyad Jumaili and heard details about prospects of investment in the Kingdom.

Later, the team held talks with ministry officials on the prospect of launching industrial and trade ventures in cooperation with local investors.

They also discussed economic and financial procedures pertaining to such activities. The team was briefed on incentives offered to investors in different fields.

According to ministry officials, the team members expressed interest in launching a joint venture in paper industry.

The team members met later with officials at the Ministry of Finance and the Central Bank of



Ziyad Innab

Jordan, as well as the chambers of industry and Trade for similar discussions.

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

KING CABLES GOOD WISHES TO INDONESIA: His Majesty King Hussein Wednesday sent a cable to Indonesian President Suharto on his country's Independence Day Anniversary. The King wished the president continued health and happiness and the Indonesian people further progress and prosperity. (Petra)

JORDAN ATTENDS ARAB LEAGUE TALKS: Jordan is taking part in an Arab League standing committee meeting on financial and administrative affairs. The committee meeting in Tunis was expected to discuss the Arab League's 1990 budget. (Petra)

MADABA GETS BANK LOAN: The Cities and Villages Development Bank has approved a JD 20,000 loan to the Madaba district. The loan will finance the construction of a number of roads. (Petra)

TEAM RETURNS FROM MOSCOW: A delegation from the Jordan Ports Corporation (JPC) and the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company has returned to Amman after an official visit to the Soviet Union that lasted eight days. The delegation members acquainted themselves with ways for dealing with phosphate exports and ways to control the phosphate dust which rises during the loading operations. (Petra)

AMMAN PREPARES FOR CULTURAL SEASON: The Greater Amman Municipality is currently involved in preparations for the coming cultural season. A municipality spokesman said that the season, due to start on Aug. 19, entails plays for adults and youngsters and other cultural activities. (Petra)

AMBASSADORS RETIRED: Several long-serving ambassadors, heads of departments and senior officials at the Foreign Ministry have been retired in a major reshuffle Wednesday. Informed sources told the Jordan Times that among those affected by the decision were ambassadors Mazen Nashashibi, Khaled Al Kayed, Faisal Hamoud and Wael Masi. Senior diplomats retired include Issa Dabbah, Adil Al Naser Hanif Katami and Adnan Al Zibdeh. (J.T.)

U.K. ASSISTANCE TO NRA: The United Kingdom is providing technical assistance to the Natural Resources Authority (NRA) worth £547,700 over the next three years to support its activities in geological survey and geothermal investigation, in accordance with a memorandum of understanding signed here Wednesday. The memorandum, signed by Minister of Planning Ziyad Fariz and British Ambassador to Jordan Anthony Reeve, provides also for training NRA staff to be employed on the project. Britain will also help in training local staff in preparing maps and brochures on geological matters. (J.T.)

4 KILLED IN ROAD ACCIDENTS: Four citizens were killed and 186 others were injured in 345 road accidents that occurred in Jordan in the past week. A spokesman for the Traffic Department in Amman said that most of the accidents were caused by motorists trying to overtake other cars. The spokesman said that the number of accidents registered an increase over those of the previous week when 322 accidents were reported, causing seven deaths and 312 injuries. (Petra)

KHLEIFAT RECEIVES IRAQI STUDENTS: Minister of Youth Awad Khleifat has said that the establishment of the Arab Cooperation Council (ACC) provides clear evidence about the intention of the ACC leaders and peoples to attain Arab unity. Addressing a visiting delegation from Iraqi universities Wednesday at Al Hussein Youth City, Khleifat reviewed the role the Ministry of Youth plays in serving Jordanian youths and sports activities. Khleifat said that the ministry established a special department to run the affairs of Jordanian youths living abroad and to provide them with the necessary services. (Petra)

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

★ A plastic art exhibition by Jordanian Artist Maha Abu 'Ayyash at the Plastic Artists Association, Shmeisani.

FESTIVAL

★ A cultural festival including exhibitions of books, paintings and national documents, as well as documentary film, lectures and poetry recitals at Eder Sports Club, Karak.

FILM

★ A feature film entitled "From Here to Eternity" at the American Centre — 7:00 p.m.

Abu Qoura to discuss with ICRC Israeli violations of human rights

AMMAN (Petra) — Administrative detention exercised by the Israeli authorities against the Arab population in the occupied Arab lands violates the Fourth Geneva Convention, according to Jordan National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) President Ahmad Abu Qoura.

Abu Qoura said in a statement that he will discuss this question

with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) which he will urge to exercise pressure on the Israeli authorities to respect the provisions of the fourth agreement that provides for the protection of civilians under occupation.

Abu Qoura said that the Israeli authorities have arrested thousands of Arab civilians for questioning and detention since 1967, and prevented contacts between the detainees and ICRC officials in violation of agreements with the Red Cross in this regard.

Abu Qoura said many of the detainees' health conditions are unknown and those in detention lack proper sanitary facilities.

72.18 per cent of students pass final community college exams

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Ministry of Higher Education announced Wednesday that 72.18 per cent of students have passed the final community college examinations set by the ministry for the past academic year.

In announcing the results at a press conference, the ministry's secretary general Ahmad Al Bashaireh said that a total of 15,860 students from 47 community colleges took the final examinations in 127 different specializations.

Bashaireh said that among the country's community colleges, 11

are run by the ministry, 13 are affiliated to government agencies and 23 are private institutes.

He said the students had taken exams in educational, engineering, commercial, social, medical and agricultural fields.

Following the announcement, the Ministry of Higher Education announced that Tawjihi students can apply for seats at the country's public community colleges between Aug. 19 and Sept. 2, and at the private colleges from Aug. 19 until Sept. 14.

The ministry said that community college graduates can apply to continue their education at Jordanian universities provided they meet the requirements for acceptance.

On Aug. 8, Minister of Higher Education Nasseruddin Al Assad announced that community colleges will admit students with a 50 per cent and above grades instead of 55 per cent, as was the practice last year.

The new decision will allow more than 11,000 students up from nearly 9,000 to enrol for different specializations.



Ministry of Higher Education Secretary General Ahmad Al Bashaireh Wednesday announces the results of the community college exams during a press conference in Amman (Petra photo)

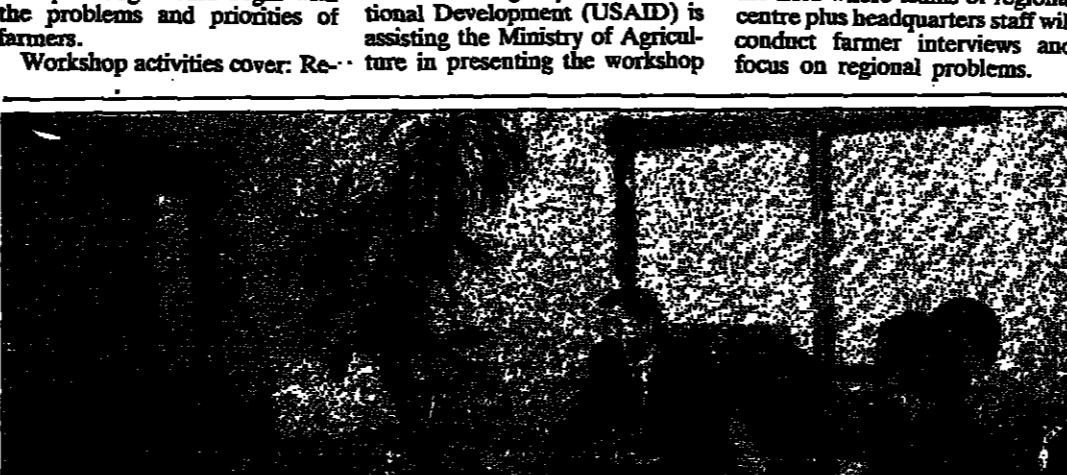
Badran opens farming system research workshop for officials

AMMAN (J.T.) — Forty-two National Centre for Agricultural Research and Technology Transfer (NCARTT) researchers and extension agents are attending a three-week workshop to learn and practice 'making the farmer a partner' in NCARTT work.

Minister of Agriculture, Adnan Badran attended the opening ceremonies at the NCARTT headquarters in Baq'a. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) is assisting the Ministry of Agriculture in presenting the workshop

viewing current work plans; interviewing farmers, revising work plans and designing trial work for the coming year based on farmer input.

The entire second week of the workshop is now being spent in the field where teams of regional centre plus headquarters staff will conduct farmer interviews and focus on regional problems.



Iraqi military team visits university

AMMAN (J.T.) — A team of officers from the Iraqi military Physical Training Department called at the University of Jordan Wednesday and met with Dr. Khaleel Karaki, dean of the

Student Affairs Department. They heard a briefing on the social, cultural and physical development programmes and later saw a documentary film on the university's development in general.

PSD aborts 6 drug smuggling attempts

AMMAN (Petra, J.T.) — The Public Security Department (PSD) Wednesday released details about attempts to smuggle drugs into the country and to peddle counterfeit U.S. dollars during the first half of August, and said 14 persons were arrested in the course of these operations.

A statement by the PSD said that the authorities aborted six attempts to smuggle drugs, seizing 2,200 grammes of heroin and 10.5 kilogrammes of hashish from the drug traffickers.

A six-member group of non-Jordanian Arab nationals was apprehended by the police during an attempt to sell the heroin which was found to have been concealed in a car and in their underwear.

The vehicle used to smuggle the drugs bore a licence plate from a neighbouring Arab country and some of the heroin was intended to be sold in a third Arab state, the PSD statement noted.

According to the statement also, an eight-member group, all Jordanians were apprehended while trying to sell hashish. It said all the apprehended persons were found to have previous police

records.

The statement noted that the first months of this year witnessed several attempts to smuggle drugs through Jordanian territory in trucks and other vehicles. It said that Jordanian citizens had cooperated with the PSD in foiling the drug trafficking attempts.

Last June, the PSD announced the seizure of a hashish haul with a street value estimated at JD 300,000, and said that the drugs were checked as they were being smuggled into Jordan from Syria.

A total of 232 kilogrammes of hashish were found hidden inside a lorry which arrived at the border town of Ramtha on its way into the Kingdom, the statement had said.

Last month a 25-year-old Egyptian drug smuggler died here shortly after arriving from Cairo after being poisoned by 200 grammes of heroin concealed in his stomach.

Last March, the PSD announced that it had broken the biggest drug smuggling operation in Jordan's history, seizing two and a half tonnes of hashish and 300,000 cigarette pills with a total street value of JD 2 million.

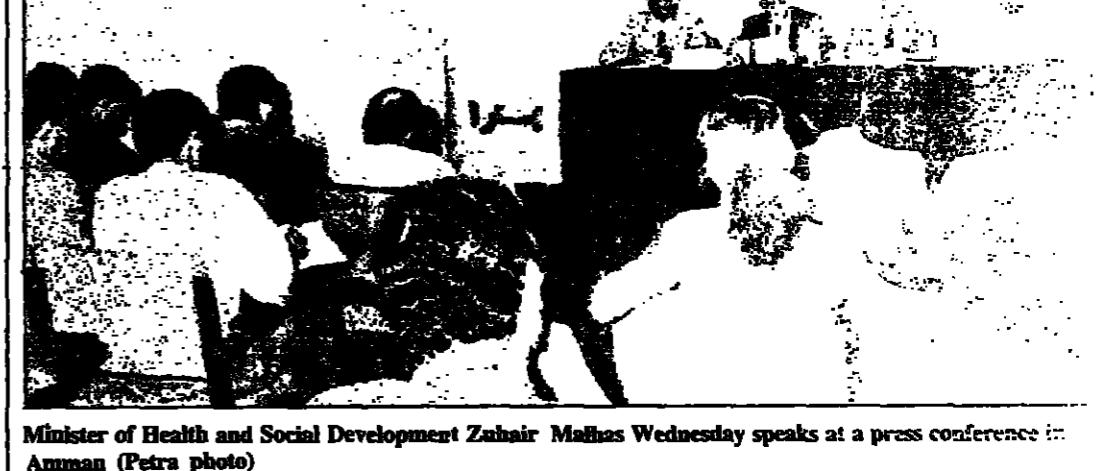
Meanwhile, PSD Director General Abdul Hadi Al Majali announced Wednesday that 56 cases linked to counterfeit American dollars were handled by the police in Jordan in the first half of this month.

Majali said that in the past weeks many Jordanians reported that they bought counterfeit dollars from the black market, and said that it was expected in view of the unjustified demand on U.S. dollars.

On Aug. 9, the PSD announced that it had seized a total of 144,000 counterfeit United States dollars since the beginning of 1989.

It said that \$50,000 were seized in an attempt to smuggle money into Jordan from Syria on Aug. 8.

Majali advised members of the public to avoid any dealings in the black market and to report to banks and financial institutions for dealing in foreign currency.



Minister of Health and Social Development Zuhair Malhas Wednesday speaks at a press conference in Amman (Petra photo)

Import licences to be issued for 791 types of medicine — Malhas

AMMAN (J.T.) — Health Minister Zuhair Malhas said Wednesday that licences will be issued for the importation of 791 types of pharmaceutical products constituting 25 per cent of the total amount of imported medicine.

Medicines will be bought through the private sectors' drug stores at the official Central Bank of Jordan's foreign currency rates, the minister said during a press conference.

Malhas commended the efforts of the local pharmaceutical industries and praised their high quality products.

He said these products meet 30 per cent of the total need for medicines in the Kingdom.

The minister referred to the economic, social and political difficulties facing Jordan at present and said they call on all Jordanians to join forces to deal with the situation.

According to the minister, the public sector is meeting two thirds of the country's needs of drugs and noted that medicine is being imported through the Health Ministry's 66 drug centres.

The minister urged local doctors and specialists to direct their patients to purchase locally produced medicine which, he said, has proved to be of high quality.

He said that the Ministry of Health has recently issued licences for 64 new drugs.

In the course of its efforts to ensure sufficient amounts of medicine needed by the local market.

The press conference came in the wake of a dispute between the Jordanian Pharmacists Association (JPA) and the Health Ministry over the provision of imported medicine in Jordan.

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According to the statement, the joint committee will convene in Aqaba on Aug. 28 to discuss ways to handle damages to imported products destined for Iraq via Aqaba.

Jordan is linked with Iraq and Egypt through the Arab Maritime Bridge Company which operates the Aqaba-Nweibeh land-sea route to transport passengers and goods between Baghdad and Cairo.

According to a company spokesman, a total of one million passengers have used the route one way or another since March 1988 when the company was set up and until July 4.

The spokesman was quoted as saying that the move was in line with a strategy of integration among transport facilities in the four member Arab Cooperation Council countries.

The company which was first

established through Jordanian and Egyptian efforts in 1985 now has a capital of \$6 million and has its headquarters in Amman.

In a further step to promote transport operations between Iraq and Jordan, a spokesman for the Iraqi Airways said in Baghdad Wednesday that the national airline has had talks with Royal Jordanian (RJ), with the purpose of providing maintenance to its Boeing 737 and 727 aircraft at the RJ maintenance workshops near the Queen Alia International Airport.

The spokesman was quoted as saying that the move was in line with a strategy of integration among transport facilities in the four member Arab Cooperation Council countries.

According to the statement, the joint committee will convene in

together to counter deviant, extremist and destructive trends and prevent their members from influencing the religious areas.

The Iraqi minister also urged his colleagues to work against pro-Iranian movements in Lebanon which he described as anti-Islam and anti-Arab.

Confidence sources said the other ministers agreed on the need for a common strategy to combat Islamic extremism, growing in their countries and in the region.

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Arabs hold Lebanon card

THERE are voices from inside and outside Lebanon that contend that a military solution to the Lebanese crisis is not only probable but imminent. Yet a closer look at the military situation in that country would reveal that no such thing is even remotely possible. For short of an all-out invasion with an overwhelming force, which is not in the cards, the existing military stalemate is projected to maintain its momentum in the future. Accordingly it is quite irresponsible to think in terms of a military solution when all the evidence points the other way. Then why all the escalation and the intensification of the battle between the Lebanese factions?

It is just possible that the protagonists are calling for an international intervention to rescue them from their quagmire. It is also probable that the fighting parties seek justifications for the projected concessions that they feel they will have to make at the end of the tunnel. In other words, face-saving objectives cannot be automatically ruled out as paramount on the minds of the decision-makers on both sides of the fence. Meanwhile, the Lebanese people, from all sides, are being exploited as pawns in the Lebanese chess game.

But whatever the rationale and motivation behind the vicious escalation in the tempo of the fighting in Lebanon, the fact remains that a military solution is simply not in the cards. That means that a political settlement, formulated on the basis of reasonable compromises, is the only viable way to end the carnage in Lebanon.

In this vein, there are but two ways to go about achieving such a desired political settlement: Either the Arab governments do the job or the permanent members of the U.N. Security Council will be assigned this formidable task. The truth of the matter is that the two methods are not necessarily mutually exclusive. Since the Lebanese situation is first and foremost a regional conflict, a regional consensus is needed on the terms of the proposed resolution. In other words the primary jurisdiction lies with the Arab League countries which are duty bound to articulate a clear-cut formula for ending the Lebanese tragedy. But as long as the Arab governments shun away from exercising their responsibilities for one reason or another, the international community would find itself in a fix and unable to buttress the Arab efforts with all the means available to it. At least the Arab World must nod in agreement about what sort of action the big powers are expected to perform. In short the green light must come from the Arab countries before the foreign powers can truly undertake their complimentary action.

JORDAN PRESS EDITORIALS

All three Jordanian Arabic dailies Wednesday discussed the coming parliamentary elections in Jordan following the government's announcement that they will be held on November 8, 1989. Al Ra'i daily said that nearly a million persons will have the right to cast ballots to choose deputies who will shoulder a serious responsibility towards their nation. The deputies will participate in decision-making and in matters of destiny to their country at a time when the Kingdom is facing a hostile campaign politically and economically, the paper noted. It said this hostile campaign is clearly designed to undermine the country's steadfastness and, therefore, the future deputies should be at a high level of responsibility and awareness and ready to serve their country at all required levels. Choosing persons to represent the people and share with the executive authority the burden of running the affairs of the country, is no easy process and voters should also be aware of the coming tasks and willing to elect only those seriously oriented towards serving national interests, said the paper. It said that the coming weeks will be full of activity on the part of the candidates, but the final word is for the voters and the electorate.

A columnist in Al Ra'i daily commends the close cooperation between the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships in foiling Israel's conspiracy directed against the Jordanian currency and the Palestinian uprising. Mahrous Rimawi said that the Israelis had created the dinar crisis with the hope of putting pressure on the Palestinian people who receive their aid from the Palestinian leadership in Jordanian currency, and with the hope of weakening their steadfastness. Weakening the West Bank's economy and ending the uprising can only serve the Zionist aims and also deal a blow to Jordan's continued efforts to help the Palestinians regain their lands, the writer notes. He says that in the face of the Israeli conspiracy the Jordanian and Palestinian leaderships are coordinating their steps and are doing all they can to abort Israel's plots. The Palestinian leadership's call on the Palestinian people to deal only with the dinar has served as a devastating blow to the Israeli leaders and their civil plots, said the writer. It is hoped, he concludes, that continued coordination will stem Israel's ambitions to achieve gains at the expense of the Arab Nation.

In an editorial entitled "the countdown for the elections," Sawt Al Sheab daily said Wednesday that every person now hopes that only those responsible people will acquire seats in the coming Lower House of Parliament. This country cannot tolerate any extremist ideologies and can only serve as a united country for all Jordanians regardless of their background, the paper noted. It said that the Jordanian family, united behind its leadership, is determined to elect responsible persons at a high level of responsibility and determined to serve their country, the paper noted. It said that more than a million persons are already expected to vote in the coming elections and it is hoped that their choice will help maintain the bright image of the nation.

Jordan, Indonesia develop exemplary ties

By Dr. Sumaryo Suryokusumo

ON THE OCCASION of the Indonesian Independence Day on August 17, Indonesia is happy to convey a message of traditional friendship and brotherhood to the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and her people.

Indonesia and Jordan have been able over the past many years to strengthen and develop their relationship and to diversify their cooperation in various fields. Indonesia is determined to invigorate these relations for the benefit of the two nations.

In the political sphere, the two countries share many common interests, not only their contribution to the peaceful solution of both the regional and international conflicts, but also their participation in the Non-Aligned Movement, and in the Organisation of the Islamic Conference, of which both are members.

Moreover, both countries also share similar views on many of the Third World's issues such as promotion of the new international economic order, North-South dialogue, South-South cooperation, the establishment of common fund for the integrated commodity programme, United Nations development decades and strategy and many others.

Indonesia had supported the decision taken by Palestine National Council (PNC) proclaiming the establishment of the independent Palestine State on November 15, 1988. This is particularly so in full accordance with the steadfast support of Indonesia to the struggle of the Palestinian people to restore their inalienable rights to self-determination and to establish the

independent state of Palestine within the Palestinian territory.

The peace strategy recently adopted by the Palestine Liberation Organisation has proved its commitment to participate in peace negotiation with Israel through an international conference on the Middle East, as envisaged by the U.N. General Assembly Resolution 38/58 C, the only viable framework for the comprehensive settlement.

In the field of economic cooperation, and in 1988, the trade volume between Jordan and Indonesia reached \$45,526,100 with the balance in favour of Jordan. Jordan in 1988 exported phosphate and potash worth \$30,780,000 to Indonesia, which in turn exported \$14,546,100 worth of various commodities to Jordan consisting of plywood, coffee, spices, glass, car accessories and other commodity products.

Efforts to improve economic cooperation between the two countries have been made through the visits of their trade missions and the holding of commodity exhibitions in both countries. The commercial exchange is expected to continue to increase and develop in the coming years.

In the aviation field, Jordan has reached agreement with Indonesia to operate joint flights from Amman to Jakarta vice-versa, using Royal Jordanian aircraft and the operations are expected to start at the end of this year.

The two countries had for the last few years also established fruitful cooperation in the field of education, culture, and science through the agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation concluded in Jakarta on May 12, 1989. This

agreement covers a broad scope of programmes and activities including exchange of scholars and experts in various fields and holding of seminars, meetings, festivals, and sport events. Indonesia has for the second time participated in the International Arts and Culture Festival 1989 held in Jerash, while the first participation was made in 1986.

Cooperation in the religious field has shown significant progress marked by the signing of a protocol for the cooperation between the departments of religious affairs of the two countries, the results of which were made during the visit of the Indonesian minister of religious affairs to Jordan in November 1988.

Indonesia has attached great importance to the pivotal role played by His Majesty King Hussein bin Talal both in hosting inter-Arab rifts and in searching for a comprehensive peaceful solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict including that of the Palestine question and aiming for a durable and lasting peace in the Middle East, to which the Indonesian government has highly appreciated. Indonesia also recognises the wise leadership of His Majesty in his abilities in galvanising his people in the efforts of restoring the Kingdom into the parliamentary life.

Finally, I would like to take this opportunity to express my sincere gratitude for the warmth hospitality and kindness the Jordanian people has extended to me since I first came here in April 1988 and wish that a better mutual acquaintance will ensure a constant improvement of the relationship between our two countries.

The writer is Indonesian ambassador to Jordan.

One year after Zia:

Democracy a mixed blessing for Pakistan

By Mohammad Aftab
The Associated Press

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — One year after President Gen. Mohammad Zia ul Haq died in a plane crash that ended more than a decade of authoritarian rule, Pakistan is eating the fruits of democracy, both bitter and sweet.

There are hints of a cultural renaissance. Music, drama and ethnic dance are slowly returning to the airwaves following years of patriotic and religious programming.

Pakistan and its archrival, India, have started talking again. Newspapers print more of what they want. Urban women are beginning to speak up for equal rights. Government men may be seen in shirts and ties; a year ago, it was obligatory to wear shawar kameez, the pajama-like native garb.

This Muslim nation enjoys newfound political freedom, but ethnic and religious tensions still simmer, and a bitter war in neighbouring Afghanistan occasionally continues to spill over the frontier.

Meanwhile, Zia's march toward an Islamic system of justice has halted in mid-step, and the anger of the religious right.

All this is taking place under the leadership of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto, the daughter of former Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, who Zia overthrew in a 1977 military coup. Bhutto was hanged two years later on conviction of involvement in a murder plot.

Cleaning the mess

"The country is beset with economic problems that are marked by a rapid rise in population of 3 million a year, a lack of infrastructure facilities, poor communications and a critical shortage of energy," Ms. Bhutto said in a recent speech. "Simultaneously, the expectations of the people are soaring."

Minister for Law and Provincial Coordination Iftikhar Gilani agreed that the new government faces an uphill task.

"The business of improving the quality of life of 110 million people is a daunting one," said Gilani.

ni, a lawyer. "We never thought it would be so daunting, so complex. We are trying to clean the mess that has been piling up for the last 42 years."

The foreign debt is \$14 billion. The World Bank is offering a \$3-billion loan package during fiscal 1990, which started July 1. The economy is growing at 5 per cent annually, but the government is trying to trim an annual budget deficit of 60 billion rupees (\$2.9 billion).

It will collect more direct and indirect taxes this year under an International Monetary Fund package that offers \$823 million in loans if Pakistan meets certain budgetary targets.

Zia ruled eight years under martial law, and almost three more while holding the leash of a civilian government.

On Aug. 17, 1988, his plane went inexplicably haywire after takeoff from a demonstration of a U.S. battle tank, tumbling from the sky and disintegrating on a sandy plain in eastern Pakistan.

First woman leader

Pakistan and U.S. investigators ruled out technical failure and hinted at sabotage, but they did not say by whom. Speculation ranged from political opponents to foreign governments.

The crash paved the way for

the country's first free elections in 11 years and returned Bhutto to power.

Ms. Bhutto became the first woman to lead a modern Muslim nation.

The 36-year-old prime minister, educated in the West, is cast abroad as a handmaiden of democracy. At home, she is a shrewd but querulous politician.

Ms. Bhutto's earliest progress has been in foreign relations. She has been well received in Washington, London, Paris, Beijing, Tokyo, Riyadh and Ankara. Her government has pledged itself to improve relations with India and the Soviet Union.

She has continued Zia's support, with substantial weaponry from the United States, of fractious Muslim rebels fighting to topple Afghanistan's Soviet-backed government.

However, the 11-year-old civil war has driven more than 3 mil-

lion Afghan refugees into Pakistan, feeding what Ms. Bhutto calls a "heroic and kalaikunov culture."

With Soviet combat troops now out of Afghanistan, she favours an early political solution. Zia pushed the rebels for a military victory in their quest to replace the Communist Kabul government with an all-Islamic one.

U.S. President George Bush has pledged \$623 million in military and economic aid annually for the next six years in exchange for Ms. Bhutto's promise not to develop nuclear weapons, which Pakistan is widely reported to be doing.

She also has promised to help strange heroin production in Pakistan. Most of it winds up in the United States and Western Europe, but Pakistani officials estimate there are about 1.5 million heroin addicts at home.

Ms. Bhutto's leadership faces no immediate threat. She has the

support of 113 members of her own party — and 35 others from small groups and independents — in the national assembly, parliament's powerful lower house.

The IDA controls 93.

Her party last November won a simple majority in the national legislature but not in all four provincial assemblies. Punjab, the biggest and richest with 60 per cent of Pakistan's population, is controlled by her main political rival, Chief Minister Nawaz Sharif.

Ms. Bhutto's power is not unlimited.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, a widely respected, elderly conservative, is empowered to dissolve the national assembly.

Her son, Ijaz ul Haq, a cleric and member of the senate, or upper house of parliament. Other religious scholars maintain there is no Islamic ban on a woman leader.

Ms. Bhutto's power is not limited.

Ms. Bhutto has accused Sharif of trying to compete with her federal government. Sharif says the prime minister is abusing her power in an attempt to oust him.

Down south in the Bhutto home province, Sind, the PPP is firmly in control, but ethnic clashes have left hundreds dead over the past three years.

Some powerful Muslim religious leaders still reject Ms. Bhutto because of her sex.

"A woman's rule is God's curse," said Sami ul Haq, a cleric and member of the senate, or upper house of parliament.

Other religious scholars maintain there is no Islamic ban on a woman leader.

President Ghulam Ishaq Khan, a widely respected, elderly conservative, is empowered to dissolve the national assembly.

His incapacity, however temporary, also invites speculation about who will eventually succeed him as ANC president.

Secretary-General Alfred Nzo is deputising in his absence and the next-in-line in the hierarchy is treasurer Thomas Nkobi.

But they are not seen as likely candidates to lead a movement which increasingly draws its strength from youthful military commanders and up-and-coming political activists.

However, diplomats say young military commanders like Chris Hani and political firebrands like Steve Tshwete are also ruled out because of their unrepentant support for armed action is alienating valuable international backing for the movement.

The Zambian government says the four were refugees awaiting resettlement and has demanded their immediate release.

Diplomats said these tensions

check-up and a rest.

Sources close to the movement said Tambo had suffered a stroke, but ANC officials denied this.

The wide respect and authority that O.R., a nickname derived from his Christian names Oliver Reginald, enjoys in his broad, loose-structured organisation would also make him difficult to replace, the diplomats said.

Tambo failed to attend a summit of southern Africa's frontline states in Lusaka last Thursday and he may also miss a meeting in Harare on August 21 of the Organisation of African Unity's ad-hoc committee on southern Africa.

The meetings were called to address the question of whether the time was right for the ANC and its allies to talk directly to the white South African government about ending apartheid.

While opposing unconditional talks with Pretoria, the ANC is preparing a negotiating position which it is expected to present at

the Harare meeting.

ANC officials say the debate about negotiations coincides with growing restlessness among younger cadres uncertain about the future.

And the frustrations, difficulties and boredom of living in exile, has led to incidents of violence and indiscipline among the several thousand ANC members in Lusaka. ANC cadres were involved in a number of fatal shootings and robberies this year, straining ties with their Zambian hosts.

The relationship was further strained more than a week ago when ANC security officials abducted four former members of the movement, saying they were suspected South African agents and blaming them for recent bomb attacks against the ANC in Lusaka.

The Zambian government says the four were refugees awaiting resettlement and has demanded their immediate release.

Diplomats said these tensions

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SEPT / SEPT

Face à ce que le pape Jean-Paul II a qualifié de "génocide" dans son allocution du 15 août, la communauté internationale a décidé cette semaine d'appeler résolument un chat un chat. Pour la première fois depuis le début de la guerre entre les troupes du général Aoun et les milices soutenues par l'armée syrienne, en mars dernier, les diplomates français et américains ont ouvertement critiqué cette semaine l'attitude de Damas dans l'au-delà du Liban. Washington lui a notamment reproché l'escalade irresponsable de la violence, au lendemain d'une intense bataille autour de la colline de Souk Al-Charb, l'un des trois verrous du "pays chrétien," qualifié de "Verdun" par le chef des forces loyalistes lui-même. Pendant quatre jours, l'armée syrienne et ses alliés libanais et palestiniens ont intensément pilonné l'endroit sans pouvoir l'enlever. Victoire certaine pour le général Aoun, qui a baillonné chez beaucoup le scepticisme avec lequel ils avaient accueilli le 14 mars sa proclamation de guerre de libération du Liban. Il aura néanmoins fallu cinq mois d'affrontements ininterrompus pour qu'enfin le pays du Cédré fasse l'objet d'une intense activité diplomatique. Paris, en particulier, a repris son initiative de sensibilisation internationale en déplaçant depuis le week-end dernier des émissaires de haut rang dans plusieurs pays. Alain Decaux, ministre chargé de la Francophonie s'est rendu au Vatican; Thierry de Beauçé, secrétaire d'Etat chargé des relations culturelles internationales s'est entretenue avec les chefs d'Etat des pays du triumvirat arabe; le secrétaire général du Quai d'Orsay, François Sheer, a rencontré pendant plus de quatre heures le chef de la diplomatie syrienne; Patrick Leclercq, directeur du département Afrique du Nord-Proche-Orient au ministère des Affaires étrangères avait rendez-vous lundi avec le secrétaire général de la Ligue arabe, Chedli Kibi, à Tunis; quant au directeur de cabinet de Roland Dumas, Jacques Andréoty, il s'est rendu le même jour à Moscou, conformément à la décision prise conjointement en juillet par MM. Mitterrand et Gorbatchev d'unir leurs efforts pour obtenir un "cesser-le-feu immédiat rigoureusement respecté" au Liban. Mission pour chacun d'entre eux: encourager la communauté internationale à soutenir l'initiative arabe de paix, et notamment les efforts du comité algéro-marocain, établi par le sommet de Casablanca et aujourd'hui dans l'impasse. La France attache "une grande importance à la poursuite de la tâche" du triumvirat, a notamment souligné Thierry de Beauçé dimanche en quittant Alger pour Ryad. Reste aux pays arabes à saisir l'occasion. De Moscou à Washington, tout le monde les encourage à réunir un sommet extraordinaire, comme l'a souhaité l'OLP. De son côté, le secrétaire général de l'ONU, Javier Perez de Cuellar, a appelé mardi à la convocation d'urgence du Conseil de sécurité pour mettre fin au bain de sang. (D'après agences).

EN BREF

Planter. 200 000 étudiants jordaniens planteront deux millions d'arbres entre septembre et décembre prochain pour reverdir le pays, sous l'égide des ministères jordaniens de l'éducation et de l'agriculture. Le roi Hussein donnera lui aussi un coup de main et de poche à ce vaste projet en plantant le deux millionième arbre.

Télescope. Le Japon s'apprête à offrir un planétarium et un télescope à la Jordanie. Ce cadeau d'une valeur de 275 000 JD relève de la collaboration culturelle entre la Jordanie et le Japon et bénéficiera au programme d'éducation des enfants du centre culturel Haya. Depuis 1981, le Japon a soutenu les activités culturelles jordanienes par différents dons d'une valeur totale de 1,94 millions de dollars.

Nicotine. La nicotine contenue dans le tabac affaiblit les cellules grises qui contrôlent certains comportements fondamentaux comme l'apprentissage, la mémoire et l'émotion. Cette découverte, qui révolutionne l'idée traditionnelle selon laquelle la nicotine excite certains neurones qui à leur tour inhibent d'autres fonctions cérébrales provoquant un effet calmant, est le fruit du travail de Linda Wong, chercheur américaine.

Pardon. Le président américain George Bush a accordé le pardon au millionnaire Armand Hammer, reconnu coupable de contributions électorales illégales pour la réélection à la présidence, en 1972, de Richard Nixon. Le millionnaire, âgé de 91 ans, sollicitait ce pardon depuis de nombreuses années, après avoir plaidé coupable, en 1976, d'avoir versé illégalement 54 000 dollars pour la campagne de Richard Nixon.

Gros poisson. Un chalutier norvégien a remonté le week-end dernier dans ses filets un sous-marin qui a réussi à se dégager et à disparaître sans être identifié. L'incident s'est produit alors que l'"Orion" péchait la crevette dans les eaux internationales en compagnie d'autres bateaux. L'équipage du submersible, qui selon les pêcheurs norvégiens s'exprimait en "mauvais anglais", s'est dégagé du chalut en utilisant des chalutiers, de haches et des masses. L'armateur de l'"Orion" a estimé à quelque 200 000 dollars les dégâts causés à son filet, qui n'est pas assuré contre ce genre de pêche.

Pêche à l'ancien. L'épave d'un navire marchand romain, datant du premier siècle avant Jésus-Christ, a été retrouvé par la police des dunes italiennes au large de la côte occidentale de la Sardaigne. La découverte remonte à 1987, mais elle avait été rigoureusement tenue secrète en attendant qu'une campagne de recherche archéologique puisse être organisée. Selon les autorités, le bateau et sa cargaison sont "dans un excellent état de conservation". Il s'agit en l'occurrence de lingots de plomb de 33 kilos pièce, portant les poinçons de plusieurs familles romaines communes pour leur activité minière.

Accroissement. Il y aura 1,470 milliard de musulmans dans le monde en 1980, a affirmé dimanche l'agence islamique internationale d'informations (INA) de Djeddah, en Arabie Saoudite. L'INA, qui dépend de l'organisation de la conférence islamique, a notamment précisé que le nombre de croyants s'est accru de 166 millions au cours des huit dernières années.

Éclipse. Une éclipse totale de la Lune s'est produite la nuit dernière à 2h20, heure GMT. En raison des décalages horaires, le début du phénomène était observable ce matin à l'ouest de l'Asie et en Europe du Nord au moment du coucher du satellite de la Terre. Plus d'un milliard de personnes ont pu assister à cette éclipse, provoquée par l'ombre de notre planète, et voir une couleur rouge ou orange inhabituelle dans le ciel.

Stones 89. Les Rolling Stones ont donné samedi soir dans un club de New Haven (Connecticut) le coup d'envoi de leur tournée 1989, la première depuis huit ans. Sept cent personnes ont assisté à ce concert auquel une heure au cours duquel les Stones ont interprété plusieurs titres de leur nouvel album "Steel Wheels", qui doit sortir le 29 août, ainsi que de vieux succès de leurs débuts, tels "Honky Tonk Woman" et "Brown Sugar".

OUvert. Un Français sur deux est favorable à l'ouverture des magasins le dimanche et déclare ne pas avoir le temps de "faire ses courses le samedi ni en semaine", selon un sondage IFOP publié dimanche par le Journal du Dimanche. La proportion des partisans de la rupture du repos dominical atteint 70% à Paris, contre 53% en province. En tête des magasins dont les Français souhaitent l'ouverture figurent les boulangers.

Asile. Deux footballeurs du Dinamo de Bucarest ont demandé lundi l'asile politique à l'Espagne. Marcel Sabau et Georges Viscreanu, qui étaient arrivés avec leur équipe à Madrid la semaine dernière pour participer à un tournoi, s'étaient rendus dans un premier temps à Francfort; en Allemagne fédérale, pour tenter d'obtenir un visa de résidence dans ce pays. Refoulés, ils ont déposé une demande d'asile auprès des autorités espagnoles dès leur retour dans la capitale.

Le marché de l'or en Jordanie

Une précieuse affaire de famille

450 boutiques, dont 220 à Amman: le marché du métal jaune et de la joaillerie est en perpétuel développement dans le Royaume.

Le souk de la vieille ville, qui depuis sa création, en 1952, ne cesse de s'agrandir, en témoigne. On y est orfèvre, expert, bijoutier de père en fils. Car n'entre pas qui veut dans la profession des mille et un scintilllements.

"Units comme les cinq doigts de la main... avec une bague ou une alliance sur mesure à chacun d'entre eux: tels se présentent les maîtres du marché de l'or d'Amman. Experts, bijoutiers, orfèvres, hommes d'affaires tout à la fois. Leur domaine par excellence: le souk de la vieille ville, deux pas de l'Amman-Cairo Bank.

Exception faite du vendredi et du dimanche après-midi, la place grouille de monde. Depuis le troisième de la grande artère, jusqu'à dans les recoups des passages étroits et les impasses. Sardines, familles de fiancés, jeunes mariés... se laissent aller au rêve ou cherchent avec méthode le collier ou le bracelet qu'ils ont en tête. Ou plutôt, qu'elles ont en tête. Les femmes constituent en effet l'essentiel majorité des adeptes de ce lâche-vitrine d'un genre particulier.

Adeptes éclairées, qui pour la plupart avouent aimer "flâner dans le souk" plus par plaisir qu'à la recherche des prix les plus bas.

Et pour cause: solidement organisée, la corporation des marchands d'or, propriétaires des boutiques, ne souffre guère ceux

qui choisissent de faire cavalier seul. "350 d'entre nous, soit la quasi totalité des professionnels du royaume, sont membres de notre association", clame fièrement Ghabel Sakkija, vice-président de la General Society of proprietors of trade goldsmith and jewellry firms.

Un fort corporatisme

"C'est une nécessité dans notre métier que vous retrouvez dans tous les pays," poursuit-il. Nécessité d'autant plus impérieuse, selon Ghabel Sakkija, que beaucoup de nouveaux venus poussent au portillon. "Depuis la crise pétrolière de 1973, le marché de l'or est devenu un marché instable. Phénomène aggravé par l'arrivée de gens qui voulaient sauver leur fortune en achetant des lingots". De moins de 40 dollars l'once au début des années 70, le métal jaune culmine il est vrai désormais à 860 dollars.

De coup, la ruée se poursuit et les prix augmentent toujours plus."

Né en 1972, l'organisation des marchands d'or se donne essentiellement pour objectif de protéger ses adhérents en les conseillant et de servir d'interlocuteur auprès des ministères de Finances et de l'Industrie, ou face aux compagnies financières et aux banques. "Nous ne cherchons pas à créer des monopoles, mais à préserver une solidarité à laquelle nous tenons. Il n'est donc pas interdit à l'un d'entre nous de baisser ses prix si l'urgence se fait sentir pour lui de récupérer une somme en argent."

Sur les 450 magasins qui composent le marché de l'or, dont 220 ont pignon sur rue à Amman, il est pourtant bien difficile de faire jouer la concurrence. Seule solution: avoir la journée devant soi, bien connaître le marché et attendre le moment opportun. "En période de stabilité, les prix peuvent changer cinq fois par jour, explique un banquier. Le souk dépendant du marché international, les fixings des bourses de Hong-Kong, Londres puis New York se répercutent à la vente au détail". Depuis près d'un an, les bijoutiers ont aussi un oeil sur le dollar.

"Nous sommes devenus de véritables hommes d'affaires,



Ghabel Sakkija, bijoutier et orfèvre.

affirme Ghabel Sakkija. Toujours pendus au téléphone ou penchés sur le télescripteur des agences de presse, en voyage en Asie ou en Europe pour acheter de l'or et des pierres précieuses".

Mal toujours animé d'un puissant esprit de famille. En témoigne l'immense respect qu'il inspire jusqu'à aujourd'hui le doyen de la corporation, Sa'id Souradi. "Il a une expérience supérieure à la nôtre et un flair infaillible", insiste-t-il.

Un doyen respecté

Figure la plus populaire du souk d'Amman est le fondateur du marché de l'or, Sa'id Souradi. Originaire de Jaffa en Palestine, il vit dans l'univers de l'or et des bijoux depuis 1916. "Orphelin, mon oncle m'a recueilli et enseigné toutes les ficelles du métier", raconte-t-il. Au point de lui donner l'envie de se mettre à son propre compte en 1932, à l'âge de 29 ans. Son affaire prospère, mais la guerre de 1947/1948 le pousse à l'exode. "J'ai dû tout abandonner, ma boutique et ma fortune, qui s'élevait à plus d'un million de dollars."

Réfugié au Liban, Sa'id Souradi, détenant le titre de "bijoutier de la famille", a connu le même itinéraire. "J'ai pris le rôle de mon père, il y a 10 ans". Aujourd'hui, il incarne le modèle type du patron efficace et respecté. A 46 ans, il se trouve à la tête de l'une des dix grandes entreprises du pays, propriétaire d'une bonne centaine de salariés. Signe de sa réussite: il a créé sa propre bijouterie, dont les huit ouvriers jordaniens, libanais et syriens fabriquent, sertissons ou réparent à la commande.

Tous sont entrés dans la profession sur le tas. Tel Ghassan Ghazali, d'Amman a transformé ce quartier de la vieille ville. "Notre travail a lui aussi changé, souligne Sa'id Souradi". Aujourd'hui, il est dans le neuvième étage de l'immeuble voisin de l'Amman-Cairo Bank. Incollable sur les pierres précieuses, il ne regrette qu'une chose: avoir de moins en moins souvent l'occasion d'en avoir de magnifiques entre les mains. "Les gros diamants, c'est fini. On ne taille plus que très rarement des bijoux de plus de 150.000 dollars."

"Grosse pointure" du métier.

Alain Renon.

Nom: Aglaé

Le nucléaire au service de l'art

Le cœur du Paris souterrain, dans l'antre de bétons aux murs clairs aménagé pour eux sous les jardins du Carrousel, se trouve "Aglaé". Non pas la fille de Zeus dont les Grecs avaient fait la déesse de la Corvinité, mais l'"accélérateur du Grand Louvre d'analyse élémentaire". Un nom barbare pour une étonnante machine à remonter le temps et à scruter la matière; pour un ouï de recherche et de connaissance des œuvres d'art encore unique au monde.

Désormais courantes dans la recherche en sciences appliquées (géologie, minéralogie, médecine), les méthodes d'analyse par faisceaux de particules se révèlent efficaces pour l'étude des œuvres d'art et des découvertes archéologiques. En témoigne une certaine "Aglaé", gros serpent de câbles et de tubes enchevêtrés, d'une dizaine de mètres de long, reliant la cuve cylindrique d'un accélérateur de particules à un "canon" chargé de bombarder de protons l'œuvre à analyser.

Le principe est simple: tous les solides, lorsqu'on les heurte, émettent, telles les cordes d'une guitare, un son qui leur est propre, original et identifiable. Il en va donc de même des matériaux qui peuvent éventuellement être utilisés à la composition d'une sculpture ou d'une toile: le cuivre, le plomb, le fer, le zinc des peintures; le marbre, le bronze des statues; la silice des émaux, etc. Soumis au choc des protons, ils rendent chacun une sonorité particulière, qui permet de les distinguer avec une précision extraordinaire.

A quelle époque l'œuvre soumise au bombardement de protons a-t-elle été réalisée? De quelle région du monde provient-elle? A quelle école artistique appartient-elle? Quelle main a utilisé tel mélange de couleurs? Quel céleste a sculpté ce bloc de marbre? Aglaé a réponse à tout. Identifiant une copie, elle décale tout autant un faux.

Rien de tout cela n'aurait cependant été rendu possible sans l'invention du professeur R.G. Herb, de l'université du Wisconsin aux Etats-Unis.

Il a mis au point un accélérateur de protons ordinaire, il démonte l'œuvre à étudier, la place dans une cuve remplie de plomb et d'étain, qui pourraient servir de marquage chronologique.

experts... mais après des milliers d'heures de travail achamé.

Miracle du mariage des sciences nucléaire et informatique, quelques minutes suffisent à Aglaé pour afficher la composition des couches d'un tableau, identifier les couleurs d'un tableau, identifier un bijou. Le tout, sans même effleurer l'œuvre. Là réside l'une des grandes qualités de cette machine dans l'authentification des objets d'art: elle ne les altère pas. Progrès inestimable, quand il s'agit d'étudier, par exemple, ces "intouchables" que sont les gemmes, les émaux, les verres et autres travaux d'orfèvrerie.

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Pierre-Albert Lambert.

Légo

Construis-moi un lapin

un plan de 10 ans consacré au développement du matériel pédagogique, qui verra notamment 2000 professeurs et écrivains travailler main dans la main.

Pour mener à bien ce plan, le ministère de l'Education bénéficie d'un budget de 450 millions de dinars, dont la majeure partie financera la construction de nouvelles écoles. Le programme éducatif profite aussi de subventions étrangères, dont 30 millions de dollars des Etats-Unis et près de 160 millions de dollars du Japon.

Autre mesure: la revalorisation de la qualification des enseignants. A partir de 1993, les candidats à la profession devront avoir au moins une licence. Les professeurs déjà en poste suivront une formation continue pour obtenir le diplôme requis.

Que ne fabrique-t-on pas avec un jeu de Légo? Surtout quand on appartient à la firme ouest-allemande qui invente et dispense aux quatre coins du monde ce petit cube miracle... La Jordanie n'échappe pas à la règle, comme en témoigne un château de plus d'un mètre de haut et un bon gros lapin sur deux pattes et sur piédestal au magasin Al-Waha, ou encore une imitation de guitare électrique (avec fil, prise et ampli, s'il vous plaît) au premier étage du Safeway. "C'est un représentant de l'entreprise Légo qui les a construits, explique monsieur-jouets d'Al-Waha. Il effectue régulièrement des tournées dans les pays où est vendue la marque. Il passe sa vie à installer ces modèles géants dans les grandes surfaces," poursuit-il. L'impact commercial se révèle efficace. "Les gens achètent plus de boîtes de jeu quand nous exposons ses réalisations," reconnaît-on au Safeway, où "L'œuvre" a été soigneusement remisée pour les vacances. "Nous préférons la protéger en période creuse," précise un vendeur que l'idée seule d'avoir à reconstruire l'object, en cas de maladie d'un client, rend malade. D'autant qu'il faudra attendre le début de l'année prochaine avant le retour de celui qu'on pourra appeler... Légoiste.

CINEMA

From here to eternity, de Fred Zinnemann, avec Burt Lancaster, Deborah Kerr, Frank Sinatra et Montgomery Clift. Les difficiles amours d'un soldat et d'une épouse d'un officier persécuté par ses pairs... que l'attaque de Pearl Harbor pousse au paroxysme.

Centre américain, jeudi 17 août à 19h00 (en anglais et interdit aux moins de 18 ans).

New York drug addicts — Young, free and vulnerable

By Stephanie de Montvalon

NEW YORK — At just 11-years-old Cordy Ryman, a pupil at one of Manhattan's most reputable private schools, was well on the way to becoming a drug addict. As with so many youngsters, it started off as a schoolboy experiment, he recalls. Before long, he had convinced most of his classmates to join in the game. All too soon, the joke turned sour, and he realized he was hooked.

"At the beginning I took drugs as a way of experiencing different sensations," he said. "I ended up taking drugs on a daily basis at school between classes, during each break, and very soon I was beginning to feel pretty bad."

Cordy's case is by no means unusual, say New York City officials. Today's drug addicts are younger than ever and come from all types of family background. In New York, at least one-third of all seventh and eighth grade schoolchildren — usually aged between 11 and 12-years-old — have smoked marijuana, according to figures compiled by voluntary agencies. From there it is just a short step to smoking "crack" — a cocaine derivative prized by drug peddlers because of its extreme addiciveness and its all-too-affordable street price.

Now 17, Cordy Ryman, blue-eyed, dressed in jeans and a T-shirt, looks for all the world like any middle-class American teenager. Thanks to Phoenix House, a voluntary care group launched back in 1967, Cordy has been able to kick the habit and is planning to finish school before going into a career as an artist, as both his parents did before him.

His battle with drugs wasn't easy. It took a lot of cajoling from his parents, and an 18-month programme with Phoenix House's IMPACT scheme — Intervention Moves Parents and Children Together — to wean him from cocaine and give him the courage to re-establish links with society.

"At times I really thought I'd never make it," he said. "It was too hard."

Family front

At the heart of the IMPACT programme is a firm belief that parents and children have to tackle the drug problem together, as a family. Staff at Phoenix House encourage mothers and fathers to take part in therapy sessions and group discussions at the centre, helping them to build up a dia-

logue with their children that has often disintegrated over the years.

Cordy himself recalls that a breakdown in communication with his parents contributed to his drug problem.

"My parents would sometimes try to talk to me, but it never worked," he said. "Often, they would close their eyes when I asked them for money to buy clothes and which I actually used to buy other things. At other times I would take money from my mother's purse."

According to Chris Pollicano, spokesman for the Phoenix Centre, Cordy's experience was not unusual.

"Often parents refuse to face the facts. It's stronger than they are," he said. "They always think it's inconceivable that their offspring could sink so low. That kind of thing only happens to other people."

The IMPACT programme is tough in the demands it makes on the youngsters it is trying to help.

Participants have to agree to continue their studies at school and to break with any of their former friends who still take drugs. Ties forged with other youngsters at the centre are of vital importance to the success of the rehabilitation programme, say staff members.

The fact that they have all

lived through the same trauma helps build strong friendships and create a desire not to lose face in the eyes of their peers.

Said Cordy: "All my friends are at Phoenix House and it's hard to feel at ease with people who haven't been through the same thing, because you really do have a sense of being different. It's one thing being on the right path when you've once strayed away from it, but it's quite another thing when you've always been on the straight road."

The unlucky ones

Because of the emphasis Phoenix House places on family therapy, it can only help a certain kind of youngster — those whose parents still care about them, however badly the relationship may have deteriorated. Cordy was one of the lucky ones, but thousands of other New York teenagers are not so fortunate. They have no homes and no families. Often their own parents are drug-users, too far down the road to addiction to care much about their children.

According to official figures, an estimated 100,000 children in New York are mal-treated by

their parents each year, usually because of drug abuse. Two out of every five children in the city live in conditions that are officially deemed to be below the poverty level.

At present, at least 33,000 children have no home to go to, say city officials. Some of them have been thrown out by their parents, others have left of their own accord.

According to John Beckman of New York's Child Welfare Department, the city's hostels for young people have now reached bursting point. On any given day, between 100 and 200 children — some as young as 11-years-old — will turn up at the welfare department looking for a bed, he said.

Over-crowding means that some have to be turned away to spend the night in the subways or at the railroad stations. Those who do find a roof for the night will often have to move on the next day to make room for someone else.

If they are not already taking drugs, most of them turn to selling crack as a means of making some money. Young mothers often resort to drug-peddling and prostitution as a way of making ends meet. The number of mothers arrested and jailed for drug-related offences has risen by one-third over the past twelve months, say police.

One port in the storm is offered by Covenant House, a shelter for homeless children funded by voluntary contributions. Its director, Father Bruce Ritter, opened the centre in New York 12 years ago. Today, there are other branches in Houston, Texas, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and Toronto, Canada.

Covenant House's motto is "Off the streets; on with their lives." As well as providing accommodations for the youngsters the staff tries to re-integrate them into society, helping them develop talents and skills and to find jobs so that they can learn to lead independent lives.

Helpers at the centre have learned that often it is they who have to take the initiative, going out into the streets where they know the children gather after dark. Each evening, a van loaded with sandwiches and hot drinks patrols the city's most run-down neighbourhoods, handing out sustenance to youngsters who take the time to grab a quick bite in between drug deals.

Building trust

According to Father Ritter, the

mobile soup-kitchen plays a vital role in building up a sense of trust with the children.

"They have no reason to have any faith in us," he said. "We have to have lots of patience and perseverance."

Staff manning the van work hard to build up a relationship with the children, many of whom come back night after night. They learn their Christian names, and listen to their problems. Slowly the youngsters learn to accept the helpers. Some of them pick up the courage to go along to the centre to ask for advice or help in kicking the drugs or alcohol on which they have become dependent.

Sadly, many of the young homeless have no real desire to break their addictions. At just 20-years-old, Jeff, a regular face seen by the nightly patrols, is already an alcoholic.

— World News Link.



Midnight in Manhattan. A teenage girl prepares for another night on the streets. Her home is a cardboard box which she sets up each evening near New York's Times Square. (WNL)



Cordy Ryman, 17. He started taking drugs at the age of 11, but gave up with the help of Phoenix House, a voluntary organization for young addicts. (WNL)

Residents vow to fight back against gangs in U.S.

By Michael Fleeman
The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Residents of drug-infested neighbourhoods around the United States are starting to fight back against narcotics and violence, but face

elimination of the drug scourge are people like Maria and Carlos Hernandez," Koch said. The city

should tell Hernandez and others with the courage to take a stand, "you are not alone," he added.

In Los Angeles, a coalition of community leaders, social workers, business people, church members and civil rights activists has launched a project called "Taking Our Community Back." It is aimed primarily at the Avon Garden housing project, which lies at the crack-addled nerve centre of the city's gang wars.

Coordinated by Brotherhood Crusade, a social-service group, the programme has recruited hundreds of volunteers to walk day and night through a 110-block section of some of the city's worst streets, knocking on doors, handing out literature, painting over graffiti, clearing alleys and confronting drug dealers and gang members.

"We're not going to allow our community to be held hostage," says Danny Bakewell, president and founder of Brotherhood Crusade. "They're certainly on the right track, but they've got to ignite people in the community to carry it on," said deputy chief Bernard Parks, head of the department's anti-gang operations. "Sustaining it and being able to endure are key."

Bakewell acknowledged that the task appears as daunting as

as day, and some people suggest the programme, while long on good intentions, may be short on staying power.

"How successful this ultimately will be, I don't know," he said. "But what I do know is I'm not prepared to sit around and declare my community dead, the future of the community null and

void. That's just no way to live."

The patrols, until now scattered around the neighbourhood, began in force over the weekend. Hundreds of men, some responding to a full-page advertisement in a local newspaper, have volunteered to walk the streets.

Police and city officials are cooperating with the organisers and call the effort one of the city's most innovative. Residents also are optimistic.

But Los Angeles county averages more than one gang killing a day, and some people suggest the programme, while long on good intentions, may be short on staying power.

Acting police chief Leroy A.

Jahake said the majority of the city's violence has been drug-related.

Jahake has increased overtime staffing, putting 48 more officers on the streets between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., when many shootings have occurred. A new system that will allow clerks to write reports formerly written by police officers should put 100 more officers on the streets.

After her teen-age son, Byron, was severely beaten by gang members last year, Queen Hyler took to social activism and became president of the People United Association.

"It's going to be turned around in Milwaukee. People are not going to put up with this," Ms.

Hyler said. "And I'm prepared to die for it. I refuse to give one inch to the drug dealers."

Her group has staged marches and vigils this summer to call attention to the growing crime problems, particularly on the highly segregated north side where most of the city's black population lives.

Ms. Hyler said she worked hard to make a home in Milwaukee, and she will not let drugs ruin her neighbourhood.

"Somebody has to move, and I'm not going," she said.

Still, she said, fighting the image of the drug dealer is often difficult because it frequently takes a few years for authorities to convict a violator. By that time, she said, young people have already been dazzled by the dealer's Mercedes, gold chains and other luxuries.

"It's hard to tell a kid that's not the right road," she said, noting that a minimum-wage job is not an attractive alternative to the lucrative drug business.

In addition to its lobbying efforts, People United offers young people scholarships, group discussion sessions and constructive youth recreation.

"We try to make kids feel good about themselves," and give them good role models, she said.

Fundamentalist abuse of Christian belief

By Peter Hebblethwaite

Theologians and churchmen from seven Third World countries have just launched the most powerful attack on right-wing fundamentalist Christians so far seen. The fundamentalists are accused of heresy, idolatry, apostasy, hypocrisy and blasphemy — a formidable indictment.

Already published in Central America, South Africa, South Korea and the Philippines, the pamphlet was presented in the Jerusalem chamber at Westminster Abbey on July 31 and released Aug. 3 at the Centre for Concern in Washington, DC. The British sponsors are Christian Aid and the Catholic Institute for International Relations (CIR). The Road to Damascus is subtitled "Kairos and Conversion." Kairos is the New Testament word for the decisive moment when choices have to be made. The Jewish persecutor of the Church, Saul, became St. Paul on the road to Damascus when the scales fell from his eyes.

The Third World theologians are trying to remove the scales from our eyes. First right-wing Christianity is being extensively promoted throughout the Third world in all Christian traditions. If the Roman Catholics have Opus Dei, the Protestants have allegedly apolitical Pentecostal and born-again sects financed by the CIA.

What they have in common is that they exploit the text of Romans 13 (on obedience to lawful authorities) to demand blind obedience to the unjust state. In South Africa they produce a "theological" apologia for apartheid that is, says the pamphlet, not only heretical but blasphemous.

"Right-wing Christianity," the pamphlet explains, "replaces Christian responsibility and trust in God with submission to the yoke of slavery. It promotes authoritarianism and domination in the family and in society. It often distorts even the authority of the Bible by treating it as a book from heaven that must be obeyed without understanding or critical comprehension."

The fundamentalists turn the distinction between body and soul into an invalid separation. This permits them "to prevent

the spiritual from influencing their material lives, and keeps God out of their political and economic interests." The "soul" becomes a mask for the defence of the status quo.

The right-wingers need scapegoats to explain why things go wrong. Communists and Socialists play this role. The result is that "the violence, disregard for human rights, repression and brutality" that are attributed to Communists, then become grounds for harassing, torturing or even killing them.

This is not just a remote possibility. It is actually happening now in the Philippines, said Roman Tipples, Bishop of Negros. The idols the modern world worships need their toll of human sacrifices. This is no mere metaphor.

Hypocrisy is involved because many fundamentalists preach non-violence, but "seldom question the use of arms against the people".

The pamphlet has a novel ex-

egesis of the second commandment — "Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain." They translate: "You shall not utter the name of Yahweh your God to misuse it." So blasphemy here consists in misusing the name of God, in exploiting God for one's own purposes.

"It is blasphemy," they say, "to misuse the name of God in defence of imperialism."

If that sounds a little abrupt, consider this other example: "In some countries there are priests who are not only chaplains to the military, they even provide spiritual advice to leaders of the death squads. To invoke the name of God to justify death and destruction is blasphemy. It is giving scandal to the little ones."

This is more than a disagreement about politics. There are two distinct images of Jesus. The first is the one still held by most fundamentalists: "Jesus seemed to know above history, above all human problems and conflicts." He condescended to make the poor the objects of his mercy and compassion without sharing in

the first dosage interfered with the existing biological rhythms, the second reduced them and the third readjusted "bio-time".

In jet-setter terms, it means that if the traveller arriving in Canberra from Washington spent part of the first two days taking prescribed "dosages" of light his bio-clock would be reset to Canberra time at dawn on the third day.

The intensity of the light is important. Lower levels of brightness, the scientists discovered, could radically alter the magnitude and direction of the changes in bio-rhythms. In short, sleep problems might respond to the simple device of switching a reading lamp on and off.

European research in changing the activity and rest patterns of hamsters by altering the amount of light and darkness to which they were exposed tends to confirm the U.S. findings.

A significant aspect of this scientific advance is that it requires no form of medication — like features.

Good news for the bleary-eyed

BLEARY-EYED, disorientated, and quite likely wondering whether the next meal will be breakfast or dinner, the long-haul jet-setter pays a punishing price for projecting himself around the globe.

In a future era when supersonic flight is commonplace, he may see the sun rise over Canberra and chase it across half a world to watch it set behind the New York skyline.

That will be a marvel of travel technology, and intriguing. But it will play even greater havoc with the human biological clock.

Scientists are only now beginning to unravel the secrets of this sensitive mechanism, which regulates animal behaviour and functions, especially sleeping and working patterns. Jet-lag — the disorientation felt by long-distance air travellers — is only one example of malfunction in the human bio-clock. Many sleep and behavioural disorders are now being traced to faulty bio-clock workings.

And knowing causes goes a

East Africa's vintage coffee

By Florence Fabricant

COFFEE, the daily eye-opener in a safari tent and the gracious finish to dinner around a campfire or in a lodge, is to East Africa what wine is to France.

Indeed, in northern Tanzania near the town of Arusha and Mount Kilimanjaro, rows of neatly tended coffee plants line the route and cover sloping hillsides like grapevines in Burgundy or Alsace.

The similarity is more than visual. From plant to cup, coffee, like wine, is a story of hospitable soil, careful tending, pruning, hand-harvesting, fermenting and blending.

"Coffee is horticulture, not a crop like corn or wheat," said Margaret Gibb Kullander, who owns Gibb's Farm, a coffee plantation near the Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania. At the farm, which has comfortable rooms for overnight guests, lunch is served in a lush garden overlooking the highlands planted with coffee.

The coffee trees stand about six feet (1.8 metres) high, their shiny evergreen leaves covering slender, vertical branches emerging from a thick trunk. The plants have been cut back many times to generate vigorous top growth, just as a viticulturalist might prune grapevines.

"It takes about seven years from the time you plant a coffee tree until you get a worth-while harvest," Kullander said.

Originally the cherry-sized red berries of the coffee tree, native to Ethiopia, were used as food, the pulp crushed and mixed with fat, and they were sometimes fermented to make wine.

The first cultivation of coffee is thought to have succeeded

Focus on People

Philosophy in the classroom

By Marjan M. Shabot

This week Dr. Ahmad Madi, philosophy professor at the University of Jordan speaks to Focus On People about philosophy and education.

In the past 20 years most Jordanian students who chose to pursue university education have elected subjects such as engineering, medicine, business administration, law, literature and to a lesser degree education, pharmaceutical science, agriculture, pure sciences and political science.

The area of study that seems to be the least popular among students is the social sciences. History, archaeology, art, anthropology, sociology and philosophy have seemingly fallen short of capturing students' imagination on a large scale.

Dr. Ahmad Madi, professor of philosophy at the University of Jordan since 1970 believes that "this apparent lack of interest" is not embedded in the students themselves but rather directed by the education the student receives at school.

"If a student chooses to study a certain subject at university he/she usually has a background in this particular subject already. Of course if that is not the case then it's difficult to choose a subject you know nothing about," says Madi.

Although philosophy was taught at one point at Jordanian schools, it was eliminated from the school curricula for several years now because of changes in administrative thought. According to Madi it will be reinstated in the near future, possibly as soon as this fall, into the school curriculum.

Students in the past, and particularly these days, tend to be practical when choosing their field of higher education studies. Job availability has always been greater for those who studied engineering, medicine, law, and business. "Social prestige and a relatively high economic status has accompanied people who chose to enter these professions. Most people study thinking of their future — the jobs they will be able to get — they look at life economically," according to Madi.

It is only using one's instinct for survival when one serves the cause that feeds one. The job market has seen considerable changes in the last decade however; and doctors, engineers and lawyers are now seen standing in unemployment lines. While no one is likely to argue that there seems to have been little guidance as to the requirements of future job markets or possible shifts in economic priorities, little critical thought seems to have been used by the students either.

"Education is an instrument for a goal and each individual decides what his or her goal is. Philosophy defines the human soul, and a person without a soul is worth very little. It is very much like a house with nothing inside it — it is nothing but an empty house."

China's instability dampens Hong Kong tourism

By Dan Biers
The Associated Press

HONG KONG — Despite its worldwide reputation as a shopper's paradise, Hong Kong is experiencing a sharp tourism slump because of neighbouring China's suppression of pro-democracy protests.

Hong Kong's tourism boom was stopped in its tracks June 3-4 when the Chinese army rolled into Peking and shot dead hundreds, perhaps thousands, of unarmed demonstrators.

Legions of travellers immediately scuttled trips to China that included stopovers in the British colony, tourist industry officials said. Other visitors are staying away because of Hong Kong's proximity to China, although the Hong Kong Tourist Association has been frantically trying to put out word to confused would-be travellers that Hong Kong remains safe and is not part of China.

The association estimates the number of visitors to Hong Kong in June was 20 per cent off from the same month a year earlier and believes July will be similar.

That decline has affected the 31-billion-Hong Kong dollar (\$4.2-billion) tourism industry, from the plush five-star hotels that overlook the territory's harbour to the retailers who hawk knick-knacks at popular tourist haunts.

Lower hotel occupancy rates are being seen even as new hotels open.

"It's going to be bleak," said the marketing chief of a major downtown hotel, who spoke on condition of anonymity. "It will be good for the customers, because we'll have to be more guest-oriented. But for us it will be tough. We've been spoilt in the past."

Internal figures kept by the hotel industry, based on 20 leading hotels, indicate average occupancy plummeted to 75 per cent in June from 91 per cent a year earlier. The South China Morning Post newspaper claimed the rate last month was 64 per cent.

The news also is grim in the village of Stanley, a 30-minute bus ride from downtown that has become a tourist mecca because of its narrow, windy streets lined with stores selling discount clothes, gaudy T-shirts and typical Hong Kong gewgaws, such as mechanical toy pandas.

The Stanley streets, often crowded with tourists worked

into the shopping equivalent of a feeding frenzy, have become uncommonly quiet even for the slow summer season.

"The number of tourists has dropped since June 4, everybody knows that," groused Ken Fu of the 2-3 market in Stanley. In the clothing shop's window a sign advertised a "gray sale" of sweater that had prices slashed by two-thirds.

"Because of the events in Peking we have had a great loss in business," said a clerk at the Stanley Chinese Products Company.

Ian Wade, chairman of the retail management association of Hong Kong, said sales in the colony were "very depressed" in June. While he believes businesses are recovering, retail stores that depend on tourism are probably still down 25 per cent on average.

Tourism, which accounts for roughly 10 per cent of the colony's gross domestic product, had been on a long, hot streak.

Nearly 5.6 million visitors, primarily tourists, came to Hong Kong last year, up 24 per cent from 1987 and 154 per cent from 1979, according to tourist association statistics.

About 2.4 million visitors came to the colony in the first five months of this year, a 15 per cent increase from the same period in 1988.

Much of that tourism growth had come from Japan, where the rising yen made prices in Hong Kong a steal, and Taiwan, where the government recently gave permission for its citizens to visit China.

Local hotels were delighted, maintaining occupancy rates around the enviable level of 90 per cent or higher. Generally, occupancy rates of about 50 per cent for established hotels and 65 per cent for new hotels are necessary to break even in Hong Kong.

About three dozen more hotels are planned to open within the next 30 months. Dwarfing all others, a 91-story hotel with 2,400 rooms is scheduled to open sometime after 1993.

In an effort to stay viable in the wake of the Peking crackdown, 37 hotels have offered six nights for the price of four.

But the key to recovery may well be the plight of China's tourism industry, which came to a virtual halt after June 4 and has yet to recover. Recent statistics show more than one-fourth of visitors to the colony were traveling to China.

Private enterprise burgeoning in China

By He Hongyong

LI LANXIA, a private entrepreneur in Gansu province in northwest China, takes pride in running his own company. "I like being called 'boss,'" he says.

Last year, Li and his wife borrowed 240,000 yuan (\$36,000) from the local bank and bought a collectively-owned clothing factory. The factory was near bankruptcy piled high with unwanted, old-fashioned garments.

The Li's combined the operation of a private knitting mill which they already owned with their newly acquired clothing factory. They now employ over 100 workers. The business has done so well that the Li's paid off the loan in six months. "We are now going for an expansion," Li says.

Not everyone has been as lucky as Li. Wu Tianxi, a private businessman in Henan province, has had to halt plans to expand his business because of controversy surrounding his operations.

The middle-aged Wu employs 125 people in his brick kiln, flour mill, slaughterhouse and two other factories in Jiaozhou town. He has signed contracts with 276 households to produce a number of specialised products ranging from bricks to mushrooms.

Those who support Wu agree that his private enterprises have helped boost the local economy. The annual output of his undertakings accounts for one-third of the total of the town's collectively-owned enterprises. Taxes from Wu's enterprises make up 10 per cent of the town's revenue. He has given jobs to about 2,300 surplus rural workers.

However, his critics claim that Wu is making a fortune by exploiting surplus labour. They see private enterprise as encroaching on the centrally planned economy.

Wu dismisses these criticisms but acknowledges that being a private entrepreneur has its headaches. Not only is he faced with interference from local government officials, but plagued by people demanding contributions and donations.

While some people in China still have misgivings on the merits of private enterprise, there is no doubt that private business has contributed significantly to China's economic development in the last decade.

First of all, the companies have promoted production by competing with state- and collectively-owned enterprises.

Second, they have boosted the market by offering a wider range of products to consumers.

Lastly, they have created job opportunities for the urban unemployed and surplus rural workers.

In April, 1987, the National People's Congress, China's parliament, passed a constitutional amendment to legitimise the status of private companies, in recognition of their economic importance.

"Any form of ownership, as long as it contributes to greater productivity, should be encouraged," says Ren Zhongjin, director of the State Administration for Industry and Commerce.

In a nationwide campaign against private enterprise in the mid-1950s, the Chinese government shut down many private businesses, which were considered to represent capitalism and were therefore detrimental to socialist forms of ownership. Over the next two decades, the private economy was all but eliminated.

But over the last decade, private businesses have re-emerged.

Recent statistics show that China has more than 225,000 private businesses with over 3.6 million employees. Four-fifths of the businesses are in rural areas.

Generally, private companies are small-scale. At present, each private enterprise is officially allowed to hire a maximum of eight waged workers, but in reality it is many more than this.

Two-thirds of private enterprises employ fewer than 20 people, 10 per cent have more than 100 employees, and a few have as many as 1,000 people on the payroll.

Unlike individual traders who are mostly engaged in the commerce, catering and service trades, private enterprises tend to be more labour-intensive. Four-fifths of them are in handicrafts, transport and manufacturing.

Millionaires are not rare among private entrepreneurs.

There are about 4,000 millionaires in China. For example,

Liu Xigu, 34, who used to be a

farmer in Liaoning province and

has set up a transport business,

has accumulated a fortune worth 5.2 million yuan (\$1.4 million).

Some accuse the millionaires of

making their fortunes by bribery,

corruption and tax evasion.

While this may be true in some

cases, most of the wealthy entrepre-

neurs say they have made their

money by hard work, enterprise

and by having a pioneering spirit,

which is the driving force for the

development of the private economy.

Take Guangdong for example. Private businesses there, especially in the garment sector, have an edge on state companies by being tuned in to the market and taking quick decisions. The pri-

ate sector tends to be more efficient, to make better use of labour and to take more risks than is the state sector.

The last decade of economic

reform has also led to the emergence of an increasing number of

individual traders, estimated at

23 million by 1988. Last year,



Zhang Dazhong, owner of an acoustic equipment factory in Beijing, gives technical guidance to one of his 35 employees.

their commodity retail volume amounted to 100 billion yuan (\$26 billion), making up 14 per cent of the country's total retail sales. Many have moved from being individual traders to operating small businesses.

However, private businesses remain under the influence of public ownership, Ren says.

To provide legal protection for the growing private economy, the State Council, the Chinese cabinet, promulgated three sets of regulations on private business. As part of the government commitment to the encourage-

ment of private ownership, these regulations are designed further to encourage the growth of private enterprises and, at the same time, tighten management.

Private enterprises are now allowed to open joint and co-operative ventures with foreign businesses.

Despite the fact that the private economy contributes less than one per cent to the country's total industrial output, it will continue to expand and add dynamism to the country's economic reforms in years to come — China features.

Nicaraguan experience:

Bicycles replace cars

By Kathryn and Kurt Rhyner-Pozak

In Nicaragua, before the 1979 Revolution, only few people owned a bicycle. Whoever did have the means to buy one usually already had a car and considered the bike only as a toy for children. Most people simply had no choice but to walk. Since the revolution, however, much has changed. Today the bicycle is an approved means of transport and the population is aspiring to become cycle-owners.

IN 1983 Grupo Sofonias started to think of cycle production in Nicaragua, but, after examining a SKAT (Swiss Centre for Appropriate Technology) study of the subject, decided that an assembly plant was more appropriate than a production plant. Dr. Ricardo Nayarro, a Salvadorean engineer who at SKAT conducted the research into the field, had discovered that the production of bicycles was a process with a high degree of division of labour. At the top of the process are the so-called "bicycle factories" and at the bottom are dozens of factories producing the different parts.

The availability of these sets of bicycle parts, known commercially as CKD cycles (CKD stands for "completely knocked down"), facilitated the shipment of cycle parts to Nicaragua, since there was no need to collect the different parts from their respective manufacturers, and one firm could supply all the parts necessary to assemble the end product.

The Swiss Protestant Church Aid organisation HEKS had decided to finance an initial project in the town of Jinotepa in Nicaragua and the Dutch organisation CICAT assumed responsibility for the transfer of technical know-how.

After Dr. Navarro had visited several factories in Ludhiana and recommended the purchase of two containers from different suppliers, we took the decision to order one from ATLAS and one from HERO. In both cases the shipment included about 650 cycles as well as spare parts, kits for

tyre repairs and four sets of

assembly tools. The model

chosen was a black roadster, 22" with 25" wheels.

The first container arrived in

Nicaragua in October 1983.

We soon learned that it is important to send cycles in sea-containers, as one of the shipments, which arrived just in wooden crates, had suffered transport damage and the theft of some items.

The training course began with ten apprentices, most of them physically handicapped as a result of war injuries. A teaching programme had been designed and written, and drawn worksheets were given to the apprentices. The actual training started with assembly of the wheel. Some difficulties were encountered

here because the training stands did not prove to be very good, and new ones were developed locally.

Training was very intensive at the beginning and great care was taken to ensure quality. It was discovered that there were often some rollers missing from hubs and they therefore had to be opened and checked, and completed if necessary. The first cycles took some two weeks to be assembled, after which time the workers would take them for a test ride. They were overjoyed when they learned that they could buy those first samples, the modest sum discounted little by little from their salaries.

As soon as they started to assemble the second cycle, the speed of production increased and, little by little, they learned where to put the main emphasis in their work. But it became evident that a thorough quality check was needed for every single bicycle before it was ready to leave the shop. After some weeks of production, most workers were able to assemble one cycle every two days.

The market for bicycles in Nicaragua

Contrary to most developing countries, the problem in Nicaragua was never to find customers for the product but rather to find distribution mechanisms so that the cycles would not find their way to the black market to be sold at inflated price. Preference was established for companies and cooperatives who would buy in bulk and then sell to their workers and members on credit.

So far, few problems of quality have occurred, mainly due to good monitoring of the assembly process and careful choice of parts. Whenever a weak part is

identified, this is communicated

to the producer in India. Of

course, this does present some

problems because much time is

involved and we had to learn not

to discuss every bolt and nut with

the Indian supplier. Because of

such discussions we once lost

several months and when we

were finally able to order the next

container it was too late to keep

up a continuous flow of production.

It turned out that purchasing

CBJ nears unifying dinar rates

AMMAN (R) — The Jordanian dinar remained firm against the dollar Wednesday and a Central Bank official said a single exchange rate appeared within sight.

Dealers said they were buying the dollars in a range of 720 to 750 fils and selling for 750 to 770 fils, almost the same as Tuesday's free market rates.

The Central Bank fixed the dollar at 595.2/601.2 fils, unchanged from Tuesday.

Dealers said Jordanians continued to flock to banks selling dollars and buying dinars after the Central Bank pumped in more than \$26 million to stabilize the dinar.

It gave banks \$16 million at 812

filis to sell at no more than 815 fils in a bid to keep free market rates within these levels after the dinar fell to 960 fils.

A Central Bank official said establishing a unified exchange rate for the dinar appeared within the bank's grasp.

"If the present trend continues, the official and free market rates will move closer and eventually meet," he noted.

Many bankers said they expected the dinar's official and free rates to settle soon at around 650 to 680 to the dollar if present market forces remained stable.

Central Bank of Jordan Governor Mohammad Said Al Nabulsi said last week the introduction of a two-tier exchange rate system for the dinar introduced July 15 days.

31 was a temporary measure.

Its aim was to stabilize the dinar and encourage Jordanians working abroad to send dollars home through the banking system, he said.

Under the system, banks were free to trade foreign currency at market rates but had to use the official rate for imports of subsidized food, some medicines and fees of Jordanian students studying abroad.

Jordan's public security chief Abdul Hadi Al Majali told the Jordan News Agency Petra Wednesday police had foiled 56 attempts to smuggle into the kingdom counterfeit dollars with a face value of \$93,000 in the past

15 days.

'Lungs of the world' need assistance

JAKARTA (R) — The destruction of the world's tropical forests is the result of poverty in developing countries and it is up to the industrial world to help, Indonesian President Suharto said Wednesday.

In a wide-ranging speech to the nation marking 44 years of independence, he said: "The main factor that destroying the tropical forests in developing countries is their economic backwardness which leads to low living standards."

Indonesia, a vast archipelago

stretching more than 4,800 kilometres, is home to one of the world's largest tropical rain forests. About half the world's rain forests are in Indonesia, Brazil and Zaire.

At least 500,000 hectares (1.2 million acres) of Indonesia's forests are destroyed every year mainly through timber concessions and slash-and-burn farming.

"In order to save the environment we urge advanced countries to jointly set the wheels of development in motion in the developing countries," Suharto said

in his nationally broadcast speech in parliament.

Indonesia sets aside \$30 million a year to replant its forests, which Suharto called the "lungs of the world."

"If Indonesia were to do this work alone, it would take 65 years to cover 20 million hectares (49 million acres)... we urge the advanced countries to share this time by taking an active part in planting tropical forests."

It was the developed world, he said, which posed the greatest

threat to the world's environment through its industrialization and consumption.

He made no reference to recent suggestions that developing countries swap debt in return for protecting the environment. Indonesia is one of the world's biggest debtors.

Indonesia's own economy in 1988 grew well above previous estimates, he said and called for further deregulation of the economy as the country successfully reduces poverty and increases investment.

U.S. interest rates may stay unchanged

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Federal Reserve (Fed) isn't likely to lower interest rates any time soon to boost economic growth, despite a pointed warning of recession from President George Bush's budget director, many economists say.

Analysts predicted Monday that interest rates will hold steady because the central bank is satisfied it was done all it needs to keep the country out of an economic slump.

Those economists suggested that comments by Budget Director Richard Darman might actually backfire and make the nation's central bank less inclined to ease credit conditions for fear of appearing to bow to political pressure.

Darman complained that the central bank was keeping interest rates too high and would shoulder the blame if the country falls into a recession.

"If we do have a recession, I think it will be because they erred

on the side of caution" in fighting inflation by keeping interest rates too high, Darman said Sunday on NBC-TV's "Meet the Press" programme.

The White House tried to soften the sting from Darman's message by praising the Fed Monday for generally doing a "good job" but Bush Tuesday generally endorsed the comments during a morning press conference.

Bush praised Darman for expressing his views, which he called "very balanced."

"I feel very comfortable with his (Darman's) saluting forth," Bush said. "I think I have said the same things in the past."

Bush said he did not know of any president who had ever come out against lower interest rates, but he stopped short of saying that he believed that if a recession did occur, it would be the fault of the central bank.

Private economists were surprised by the timing of Darman's

gures Thursday. The report is closely watched by world financial and currency markets.

The May report shocked the markets, not only because it was much bigger than expected but because it showed U.S. exports 0.9 per cent from April while imports rose a sharp 4.3 per cent.

Howard Lewis, an economist at the National Association of Manufacturers, said a continuation of that trend would spell real trouble.

"That's a disturbing development," Lewis said of May's drop in exports and rise in imports. With the overall economy slowing it will be difficult to sharply cut the trade deficit further, he said.

The overall trade deficit for 1988 fell to \$118.5 billion from a record \$152.1 billion in 1987 — a significant year-over-year improvement — but Lewis does not foresee it declining much below \$110 billion for all of 1989.

A small Nissan car factory in Britain

Report predicts Japanese to raise share of W. European car market

LONDON (R) — Japanese manufacturers are poised to increase their share of the West European car market by more than 50 per cent by 1995, an independent report has said.

The Economist Intelligence Unit study predicted that despite

continuing restraints on exports Japanese firms would take 17.8 per cent of the market that year against 11.3 per cent in 1988.

The British-based think-tank, part of the Economic Publications Ltd, said the increase would come largely through Japanese car models, in part because of growing demand for fuel conservation and traffic congestion.

The trend toward small cars would lead to increased use of lightweight materials.

The report forecast that West European manufacturers' share of their own market would slip from 86.3 per cent in 1988 to 74.4 per cent in 1995.

Imports would rise steadily with purchases from South Korea growing fastest — from 0.2 per cent in 1988 to 3.5 per cent.

The study predicted West European car registrations would be at a record 13.35 million this year, 3.5 per cent up on 1988.

Philippines, banks reach debt accord

NEW YORK (R) — The Philippine government and its major bank creditors said Wednesday they have substantially agreed on a financing package that would provide the country with new loans and reduced debt.

The agreement, reached after a week of negotiations, is the second since U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady's debt reduction plan was unveiled in March.

The bank committee represents creditors that are owed nearly half the Philippines' total debt of \$28 billion. Because the banks involved are not obliged to participate, it was not possible to determine the deal's exact value.

Bankers had said Tuesday that the overall package would likely be worth slightly less than the \$1.7 billion the Philippines requested when the negotiations began Aug. 8.

In a press release, the Philippine government and its bank advisory committee, headed by Manufacturers Hanover, said the talks have focused on the Philippines' intention to pursue its

programme in line with Brady's plan, which includes debt reduction and access to new financing.

"Our objectives in the exercise were candidly expressed to the banks at the outset of the talks," said Philippine Central Bank Governor Jose Fernandez.

Bankers involved in the negotiations said the financing package is devised of a debt buyback plan that allows banks to end their lending to the country or new loan options. The banks can choose which course to take.

"The options of debt reduction and new lending are really directed at two different categories of banks — those that wish to exit from the process as opposed to those that have determined to maintain their credit relationships in the country," said David Pfeig, senior vice president at Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co.

"There is no question that we must reduce the country's existing stock of commercial bank debt if we are to sustain the country's economic growth over the longer term," Fernandez said.

Iran weighs buying Soviet airplanes

NICOSIA, Cyprus (AP) — An Iranian civil aviation delegation will visit Moscow to explore the possible purchase of commercial airliners from the Soviet Union, the Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) reported Wednesday.

Quoting a report in the English-language Tehran Times, IRNA said that the Iranian delegation will leave for Moscow Thursday.

The agency, monitored in Nicosia, quoted an unidentified source as telling the newspaper that "avenues for closer cooperation between Iran and the Soviet Union in the aviation field will be explored... (and) there is a possibility that Iran may purchase some facilities including passenger planes."

IRNA had earlier quoted Iran

ian civil aviation sources as saying that Iran has been in the market for new jetliners, and that the European Airbus was among aircraft being considered.

Iran Air, Iran's national airline, has a fleet of 23 aging Boeing and Airbus jetliners. Another domestic airline, Aseman, has three Dutch-built Fokker aircraft, plus a few Cessnas.

The Soviet Union and Iran have become close trade partners in recent months.

Following the August 1988 ceasefire in the eight-year Gulf war, the Soviets have been helping Iran rebuild many war-tattered industrial complexes and to upgrade other facilities.

Meanwhile, an Iranian parliamentary group called Wednes-

day for the impeachment of the minister for heavy industries in connection with a multi-million dollar corruption case, IRNA reported.

A petition signed by a number of deputies was presented to parliament Wednesday asking that Minister Behzad Nabavi be impeached.

Before the summer recess which ended Tuesday, Nabavi answered questions in parliament on the alleged theft of thousands of millions of rials (tens of millions of dollars) at the Saipa plant which assembles Renault cars.

Nabavi rejected allegations that he had anything to do with any wrongdoing by senior managers at Saipa which is an affiliate of his ministry.

S. Africans see benefits in Botha's resignation

JOHANNESBURG (R) — P.W. Botha's abrupt resignation could bring benefits for South Africa's sanction-hit economy if his successor, F.W. De Klerk, steps up reforms of apartheid, economists have said.

"The markets and the business community will regard Botha's resignation with some relief," said Edward Osborn, chief economist at Nedbank Group, a major

banks had a ripple Tuesday in the country's financial markets, which traded calmly.

Financial analysts said De Klerk, who was sworn in as acting president Tuesday, had vowed to accelerate the pace of political change and this could help soften the attitudes of many Western nations which have imposed sanctions on Pretoria.

"De Klerk is a better-educated man who will be able to understand economic concepts more easily than Botha, who had no university education and was very much a street fighter," said Osborn.

"Certainly Botha was a politician and not an economist. Modern political leaders have to be

fully acquainted with the complexities of economics," said Ronald Bethlehem, chief economist at Johannesburg Consolidated Investment Co., one of the country's big mining houses.

"The perception in the markets generally is that Botha was president in name only and that the country was being 'governed around and behind him,'" said William Bowler, head of research at stockbrokers Fergusson Bros. Hall, Stewart Inc.

"I doubt whether the rand will react at all. Everyone expected it to happen sooner or later," said Willie Potgieter, chief foreign exchange dealer at Standard Bank Investment Corp.

Interest rates in the money and bond markets showed no reaction and trading in the stock market was quiet with few price changes in early deals.

Botha, a former defence minister, was heavily influenced by his political and military advisors, economists said.

He demonstrated his failure to grasp the importance of economic issues in 1985 when he condemned the international community for failing to recognise Pretoria's halting attempts to reform apartheid.

The defiant speech, in which Botha claimed South Africa had crossed the rubicon, accelerated a flight of foreign capital from the country and sent the rand plummeting to record lows.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Wednesday, August 16, 1989		
Central Bank official rates		
Buy	Sell	
U.S. dollar	595.2	601.2
Pound Sterling	940.5	949.9
Deutschmark	307.7	310.8
Swiss franc	357.1	360.7
French franc	420.5	424.7
Dutch guilder	273.0	273.7
Swedish krona	90.6	91.5
Italian lira (for 100)	42.8	43.2
Belgian franc	147.0	148.5

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.		
One Sterling	1.5763/75	
One U.S. dollar	1.1783/95	
	1.9420/30	
	2.1895/1905	
	1.6735/45	
	40.62/65	
	6.5600/50	
	1395/1396	
	142.15/25	
	6.3875/5925	
	7.0950/1000	
	7.5450/5500	
One ounce of gold	368.60/369.10	
U.S. dollars		
Canadian dollar		
Duitschmarks		
Dutch guilders		
Swiss francs		
Belgian francs		
French francs		
Italian lire		
Japanese yen		
Swedish kronas		
Norwegian crowns		
Danish crowns		
U.S. dollars		

CANADIAN EMBASSY

SPORTS IN BRIEF

JORDANIAN TENNIS COMPETITION: AMMAN (Petra) — A men's and women's singles tennis competition opened Wednesday in the courts of the Royal Automobile Club, opened by Dr. Daoud Hanania, President of the Jordanian Tennis Union, with the participation of 32 players. The women's final will take place on Friday and the men's on Saturday.

KASPAROV CRUSHES SHORT WITH BLACK PIECES: World chess champion Garry Kasparov of the Soviet Union scored a crushing victory over England's Nigel Short in the fourth round of the Chess World Cup Tuesday in Skelleftea, Sweden and moved back into joint first place. Kasparov, playing with the move 45, Kasparov and fellow Soviet grandmaster, Valery Salov, game each. Salov spent most of his fourth round game with West German grandmaster Robert Huebner defending what experts described as a losing position. But right at the end of the six hour playing session, he tricked his opponent and appears heading for a draw. (AP)

ECONOMIST APPOINTED DIRECTOR FOR OLYMPIC GAMES: Linda Verde, a 39-year-old economist, has been appointed sports director of the 1994 Olympic Winter Games, Norway's Olympic Committee announced in Lillehammer Tuesday. Mrs. Verde was recruited from the office of Norway's prime minister, said the Lillehammer Olympic Organizing Committee (LOOC). She is the second woman appointed among nine top positions within the 29-member organizing committee. "When offered this important job, I asked for some time to think it over but quickly accepted the big challenge," Mrs. Verde said on the national NRK radio. Mrs. Verde was a member of Norway's national women's Orienteering team from 1972 to 1981 and still enters 15 to 20 national competitions annually. Orienteering is not an Olympic sport. (AP)

PARAPLEGIC TO RETURN FOR CHANNEL SWIM: An American paraplegic vowed Tuesday to return to Britain next year to attempt to become the first paraplegic to swim the English Channel. Robert Patterson had planned to make the try in the past week, but was prevented by bad weather. "I'm heartbroken, but I'm not going to give up," Patterson said in a telephone interview from a hotel in Folkestone. He said he would depart Wednesday, after waiting in vain for weather smooth enough to attempt the 22-mile (35-kilometre) crossing from England to cap Gris Nez, France. "I still intend to be the first paraplegic to swim the English Channel, unless someone beats me first," he said. "Next year I'll plan for a longer stay, maybe a month." He added that he would attempt some sort of long-distance swim when he returned to the United States "to redeem myself," but said he did not know where it might be. He had trained two years for the Channel swim. The Channel swimming association, which sanctions swims, said conditions remained rough Tuesday, with three-foot (one-metre)-high waves and 28 to 35 MPH (45 to 55 kph) winds. (AP)

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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WEEKLY BRIDGE QUIZ

Q.1—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦AQ1075 ♦543 ♦A ♦A56
The bidding has proceeded:
West North East South
1 ♦ Pass Pass ?
1 ♦ Pass Pass ?
What do you bid now?

Q.2—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦63 ♦AQK1053 ♦AQ ♦AQ58
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
What do you bid now?

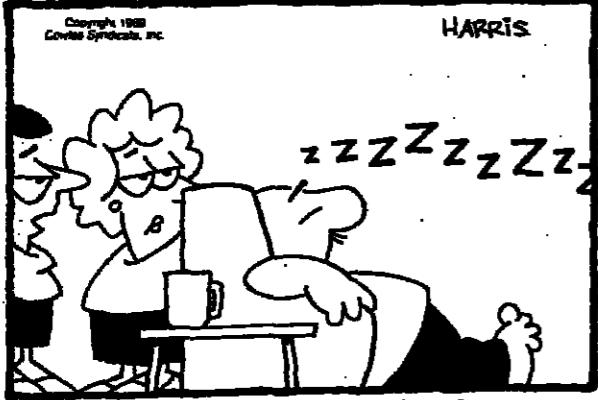
Q.3—Both vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦63 ♦AQK1053 ♦72 ♦AQ58
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
What do you bid now?

Q.4—Neither vulnerable, as South you hold:
♦63 ♦AQK1053 ♦AQ ♦AQ58
The bidding has proceeded:
South West North East
1 ♦ Pass 1 ♦ Pass
2 ♦ Pass 2 ♦ Pass
What do you bid now?

For information about Charles Goren's newsletter for bridge players, write Goren Bridge Letter, P.O. Box 4426, Orlando, Fla. 32802-4426.

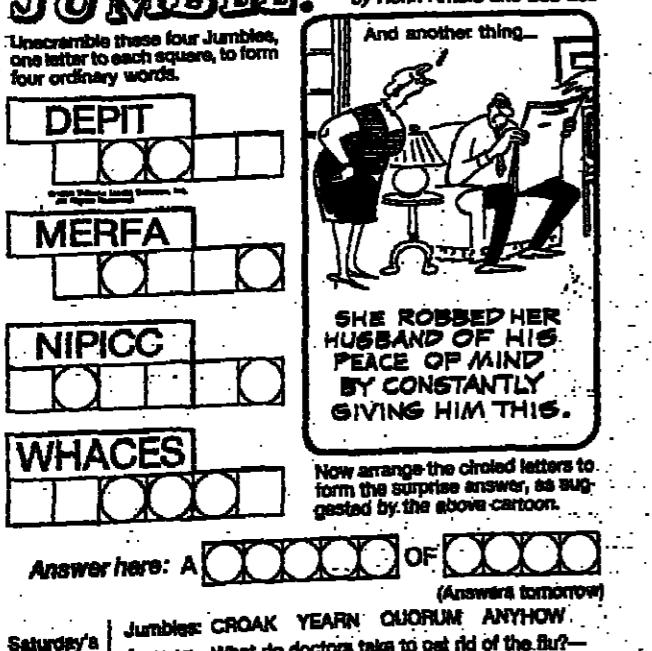
THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



JUMBLE

by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: A OF

(Answers tomorrow)

Saturday's Jumble: CROAK YEARN CLOJUM ANYHOW.

Answer: What do doctors take to get rid of the flu?—YOUR MONEY

Sports stimulate social ambition, says report

NEW YORK (AP) — Participation in high school sports had a positive effect for many minority and female students in some areas but did not help them in college or the work force, according to a study released by the Women's Sports Foundation.

Whites, on the other hand, benefited in their careers from athletic participation, the study released Tuesday said.

The findings showed gains in academic achievement, leadership aspirations and social involvement for minority and female students.

The study "provides dramatic insight on sport, the different ways in which young people of color are affected by the experience and why we must do a better job of providing sports opportunities," said Anita DeFrantz, a member of the International Olympic Committee and president of the Amateur Athletic Foundation of Los Angeles.

The report analyzed data from the U.S. Department of Education's high school and beyond study. It showed that minority athletes fared better academically than minority non-athletes and had a lower dropout rate in suburban and rural schools, although not in urban areas.

But the study revealed that the upward mobility after high school of minority athletes is limited, compared to whites.

Evidence arose that sports involvement did contribute to educational achievement among some Hispanic youth, but not others. Hispanic athletes from rural schools, especially females, black male athletes from urban schools and white females from suburban schools were more likely to continue their education during the four years after leaving high school.

Black male athletes from urban schools aspired to higher degree goals than non-athletes, while black female athletes fared no better or worse than their non-athletic peers.

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 17, 1989

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

by Thomas Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: As the moon enters Pisces, and with other harmonious aspects, psychic sensitivity, as well as creative imagination and social empathy, comes to the forefront. Public anger may turn to social changes.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) You may be torn between your own thirst for independence and your loyalty to others. Romance could show its beauty tonight.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Remind someone to give you time and a place for everything. Schedules run smoothly, and enjoyment is run.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Material needs and financial ties with those you love. Push ahead with your talents. Put energy into recreation and companionship.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) You could be involved in a plan of action that has far-reaching consequences. Follow your hunches and tune into yourself.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Your new money strategies are brilliant. You excel at activities that raise you to a position of authority. Remain confident.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) You will have the last laugh with

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 18, 1989

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A favorable aspect between Mars and Neptune places an emphasis on social issues and a desire to serve others. The inclination is to solve problems rather than break new ground.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Focus on what you do well. Overlook apparent weaknesses you find in others. Be aware of the pain of the less fortunate.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You are socially narcissistic, you can shut others out of your life. A Ma vs. The world attitude is idealistic and unaffected.

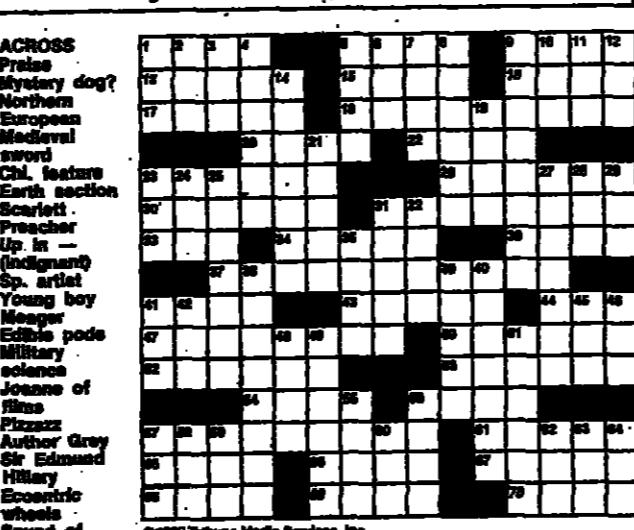
GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A romantic suitor could lead to a "merry old chase." Enjoy the beauty and charm of youthful energy, regardless of your age.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Life feels automatic when daily rituals never change. Adjust habits, be more spontaneous, and write your own script!

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Not everyone will jump to your best, regardless of how righteous your intentions. Good health is like having extra money in the bank. Work and play within your physical bounds.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Nervous energy can lead to

THE Daily Crossword by Victor Jambor, Jr.





**Kaunda
warns
Pretoria,
ANC**

LUSAKA (R) — Zambian President Kenneth Kaunda warned the South African government and the African National Congress (ANC) Wednesday they were on a collision course and urged other countries to help them reach a peaceful settlement.

He told a news conference that despite the political crisis in South Africa caused by President P.W. Botha's resignation Monday, he would still meet Botha's acting successor F.W. de Klerk as planned in Zambia Aug. 28.

Kaunda noted that the ANC, the chief South African nationalist group, and the Pretoria government were maintaining tough pre-conditions for dialogue.

De Klerk was saying he would not talk to the ANC unless they renounced violence while the ANC had said it would step up its guerrilla war and had also presented a series of demands.

"So we are on a collision course," Kaunda said.

He said he would see de Klerk as president of Zambia and would report on the results of the talks to southern Africa's six frontline states, of which he is chairman, and to the ANC, the Lusaka-based guerrilla group fighting to end apartheid.

Diplomats said that while Kaunda apparently still had no formal mandate from the ANC or frontline states to negotiate on their behalf he clearly favoured a swift negotiated solution to apartheid and was obviously keen to play a role as a mediator.

Kaunda said that a meeting of a special Organisation of African Unity (OAU) 14-nation committee on southern Africa in Harare next Monday would seek to break the deadlock between Pretoria and the ANC.

"The task of the OAU, through us, members of the frontline states, is to find ways and means of bridging that gap to find a solution," Kaunda said, citing peace moves in Angola and Mozambique as examples of the value of negotiations.

He added: "I don't think we have more than two years to go before South Africa finally explodes from within. Can we avoid it, that bloodshed?"

Kaunda called on the West to help in his efforts to end apartheid, urging them to "take me seriously for a change."

Referring to de Klerk directly and their coming meeting, the Zambian president said: "I am saying no conditions. Mr. Acting President, my dear colleague and brother, Yes, you are a brother of mine in the name of God."

But he added: "You claim to be a Christian. I see nothing Christian in apartheid, nothing whatsoever."

Kaunda said he did not understand why Botha, whom he referred to as "my dear old friend," had resigned over de Klerk's plans to meet him in Livingstone, Zambia on 28.

Unrest flares in Azerbaijan

Soviet Estonia strike threatens to spread

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russian workers in Soviet Estonia pledged Wednesday to press on with a week-long strike amid signs it could spread to the neighbouring Baltic republics of Lithuania and Latvia.

Concessions by the authorities have failed to end the stoppage in Estonia, called to protest against a new election law which disenfranchises recent immigrants to the republic.

"The strike goes on," a spokesman for the Estonian news agency ETA told Reuters by telephone from the capital, Tallinn. "They say they will not go back until a special commission is formed with powers to settle their demands on the spot."

The stoppage by the minority Russians is clearly causing concern among the republic's leadership. The weekly Moscow News reported Wednesday it had caused losses of more than two million roubles (\$3.3 million).

Estonian Communist Party chief Vaino Vaivja met strikers' representatives Monday and told them he favoured a review of the election law and other recent legislation regarded by the non-Estonian population as discriminatory.

Local journalists said Wednesday that the praesidium of the republic's parliament had revoked an earlier decree declaring the strike illegal and ordering a return to work.

But they said such concessions appeared to have made no impression on the strikers. "There has been no change. About 40,000 workers at 30 enterprises are still on strike," said Riina Lohomas of Estonian radio.

She denied a report in the government daily Izvestia Wednesday that the stoppage had spread to more than 50 enterprises.

He said similar stoppages were also planned in the third Baltic

republic, Latvia, and in Moldavia to the south.

Azeri threat

In the southern republic of Azerbaijan, a fledgling Popular Front movement is threatening a general strike next month because it wants more autonomy.

Party officials in Azerbaijan began talks Tuesday with the Popular Front movement in an attempt to avert the general strike, after getting a forest of industrial action Monday when 60 enterprises in the capital Baku were shut down.

An Azerbaijani popular front spokesman told Reuters the movement has accepted the party's offer to hold talks, but said this was not enough.

"Holding talks is not sufficient. They must register the Popular Front officially and they must meet our other demands as well," he said.

The negotiations, the first hint of official recognition of the front, followed days of rising tension in Baku, exacerbated by further clashes with Armenians in the disputed Azerbaijan-Karabakh territory in Nagorno-Karabakh.

Georgia strike deferred

Activists in Soviet Georgia called off a strike they had considered for Tuesday, according to Gruzinform, the official Georgian news agency. An activist said the strike was postponed until Sept. 1 because the government promised it would identify and take action against instigators of violence in one district of the republic, Abkhazia, by then.

At least 20 people died in the violence last month. Finding and punishing those responsible has been the Georgian activists' main demand.

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